

Agriculture - 1932
Labor Conditions.

MONTGOMERY, ALA. ADVERTISER

DEC 27 1932

RACE RELATIONS IN ALABAMA

The Atlanta Constitution has the following judicious comment on the recent disturbances in Tallapoosa county:

In Alabama there have been several encounters between a group of negroes and officers of the law. It is easy to place all the blame on the negroes, and thoughtless persons are inclined to blame the whole race for the desperate acts of a comparatively few.

In these circumstances, it is well to heed the voices of men who have studied with sympathy and intelligence a situation which tends to destroy the good feeling between the white and the black races in a Southern State.

The Alabama commission on race relations has as its subcommittee a number of notable men. Among them are the Rt. Rev. William G. McDowell, bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Alabama; Rev. Dr. H. M. Edmonds, pastor of the Independent Presbyterian Church of Birmingham; Dr. C. B. Glenn, superintendent of the Birmingham public schools; Robert M. Jemison, Birmingham banker; Dr. Morris Newfield, of Temple Emanuel, Birmingham, and Robinson Brown.

This committee finds that in the upstirring of racial prejudice in Alabama there are evidences that alien influences are at work; but it expresses confidence that the two races in the South cannot be alienated and asserts that "the progress toward right relations is too definite and their interests too closely intertwined for any outside influence, however cunning, to force the races apart."

This statement is not to be doubted. These men compose a subcommittee of the Alabama commission on inter-racial cooperation which was organized in 1920 with white and colored leaders serving on its committees. The commission is at work along lines of education, health, child welfare, law and order, with the results that good-will and cooperation has been created between the two races.

The subcommittee's statement issued a few days ago deprecates the "activities of communist propagandists in Alabama, and adds:

"Race hatred and discord of every type may be said, without exaggeration, to be their immediate object, since they are following a course which will produce these things and their ultimate purpose will be served by them. Communism, it appears, in its hope of world revolution, has chosen the Southern Negro as the American group most likely to respond to their revolutionary appeal."

While the Alabama commission, an inter-racial cooperation, is confident that the two races in the South cannot be alienated, it thinks there should be frank conferences between the two peoples and assurances of sympathy and mutual helpfulness and warns that "one moment's yielding at such a time might destroy the work of a score of years and delight the heart of a common foe."

It is well that the emphasis should be placed on need for tolerance and fair treatment of the misled negroes by the men who represent the law. Every just person will indorse and applaud the commission's statement on this point: "Officers of the law must be just, fair and impartial, and all of us must guard against condemning a whole race for the action of a few criminal members of that race."

Intelligence, patience and trust should be the watchwords of both white and black leaders wherever there are inter-racial problems to be adjusted, as in Alabama.

Biased and prejudiced spokesmen, whether white or black, are capable of doing great injury to both whites and blacks especially in the present circumstances.

What they say and do is much more likely to aggravate than to compose.

The International Labor Defense, a radical organization, is a dangerous influence.

Its purpose seems to be to exploit the misery of impoverished Negro farm workers especially and to dig a chasm between white and black.

It has no interest in the idea of conciliation.

It seems bent upon inflaming Negroes against whites, making deadly enemies of old neighbors and friends.

Whoever attempts to make the two races hate each other in the South is the deadly enemy of both.

Wise and responsible men of whatever color will scorn such wretched exploitation of the weak and ignorant.

The Alabama farm Negro does not need to be taught any more lessons in hatred.

What he needs is some 10-cent cotton—and he does not want it or need it any more than his white neighbor down the road.

The International Labor Defense does not know how to make cotton go to 10 cents a pound.

Alabama

RACE RELATIONS

Discussing a problem that is of interest to both the white and the negro races in Alabama, and throughout the South for that matter, the Montgomery Advertiser and Atlanta Constitution, two outstanding Southern newspapers have this to say concerning a recent race clash in Tallapoosa county, Alabama:

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DEC 24 1932

On Withholding Facts

The natural reaction to the sort of unpleasantness which shattered the peace of Tallapoosa County a few days ago is to try to forget it all. And that is not necessarily an unsound course, provided we are sure that there is nothing to be done to improve the situation, and provided we are sure that all which was done represented a competent handling of the matter. But it is an unsound course on the grounds dwelt upon by The Montgomery Advertiser in the following editorial:

Recent unfortunate events in Tallapoosa County were of such a character as to be of vital interest to all Alabamians, whether white or black.

It would be instructive to know just how large a factor subversive political propaganda was in the disturbance.

It is known that there has been considerable radical agitation among the poorer class of Negroes in many parts of the state, and especially, it would appear, in Tallapoosa County.

But from the beginning Sheriff Kyle Young, of Tallapoosa, has seemed to take the attitude that this was more or less his private, personal problem in which the public could have no legitimate interest.

The sheriff decided that he did not want any newspaper publicity about the affair, except what he authorized.

He has been uniformly curt and impolite to the newspapers of the state and their correspondents, and has refused to cooperate with them in any way in getting legitimate information to the people of his county and state.

In dealing with the rioters themselves this year as last, when there was another disturbance in Tallapoosa, Mr. Young seems to have acted with vigor and to have deported himself creditably. But he fell into the error of assuming that reporters were as dangerous to the public peace as rioters.

Unfortunately Mr. Young seems to have no grasp of the larger values involved in disturbances of this kind. He is unable to see that there is a very definite public interest involved and that full information, unbiased and uncolored, should be given the public through the accepted mediums.

Presumably Sheriff Young has nothing in his recent record to hide, yet he acted toward the press as if he did.

As matters stand the public has only the side of the white officers. It would be interesting to know the side of the men who were in the Jeans house when the shooting occurred.

But it would offend Sheriff Young's sense of propriety and good taste to permit any of his captives to be interviewed.

Apparently it would also offend Sheriff Young's sense of propriety and good taste to publish the names and the number of the dead, to say nothing of the wounded. If he has this information—and it is his duty to have it—

he should give it out.

Perhaps Gov. Miller could prevail on the sheriff of Tallapoosa County to take the public into his confidence as to what has occurred.

Further inquiry into the Tallapoosa situation undoubtedly is in order.

The public interest throughout Alabama is too deeply involved in situations of this kind, in times like these especially, for the truth to be withheld in any county by an arrogant official who has no adequate appreciation of his responsibility regarding public information and state policy.

Sheriff Young is no doubt a brave and honest officer, but a peace officer should also have wisdom and judgment.

The foregoing from The Montgomery Advertiser will engage the attention of all thoughtful Alabamians, whether they subscribe to criticisms of Sheriff Young or not. As matters stand, there is considerable information to which the public is entitled, and which it has not yet received. Is this upflare of bitterness and bloodshed altogether the result of radical agitation? Have the Negroes had an opportunity to present their side of the case? Is the suppressive policy of the Tallapoosa County authorities, since the riot, warranted under existing conditions or any conditions?

Certainly The Advertiser cannot be charged with animus toward the way of life of the Black Belt. If any paper speaks the language of that section of Alabama, upon the basis of intimate knowledge and sympathy, it is The Advertiser. Yet it is this helper and friend which doubts whether the whole story has been told, and which questions the sheriff's procedure in this crucial affair as evincing a disregard for outside opinion which is without justification in the light of all that this clash means to the state and to the people of Alabama.

Sheriff Young and Tallapoosa County are not alone in having to face the suspicion and derogation of the nation at large. The whole state must carry a weight of odium unless the affair is dealt with with discernment and courage. Surely the worst possible course is to produce the impression of withholding facts which ought to be made known. It is regrettable enough that such a collision should have taken place in this state. To add to the happening itself a haughty contempt for what the world may think is quite indefensible.

Agriculture-1932

Labor Conditions

Negro's Story Of Tallapoosa Revolt

Differs From Account By Creditor

By GEORGE L. DAVIS
(Staff Correspondent)

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Dec. 23.—Cliff James, negro of Tallapoosa County and central figure of a battle against deputies of that county last Monday when they sought to serve a writ of attachment on some store the negro owned, last night told his story of events leading up to the melee, his flight and final surrender to the officers.

James surrendered to Sheriff T. A. Riley, of Macon County, after he had reached the Tuskegee school hospital Wednesday night, where he went for treatment of a wound under the right shoulder which had been penetrated by a bullet.

The negro told his story freely and without interruption to a correspondent in the presence of Sheriff Riley and Deputy Sheriff Rowell, of Macon County.

His statement, for the greater part, had the ring of truth as to what happened immediately before the fight with Deputy Elder, of Tallapoosa County, and was only at slight variance with the story told by Deputy Elder himself. However, when James reached the point where the shooting began, he did not include any details as to the number of men in his home or of the battle itself, and it was necessary to get this information from him by questioning.

Insists He Ran Away

The negro denied that he took part in the fight, declaring that he ran when the group of officers approached and left the other negroes to do the fighting. He denied he summoned any negroes for help or sent any one for them, declaring "they just stopped in" and that they were "rabbit hunting." He admitted that he told the officer that "he wouldn't agree for him to take the two mules and two cows" and that he would "have to take them himself." He denied being a member of any share cropper's union or society or having heard of such a union. He charged that Deputy Sheriff Gantt, of Tallapoosa, fired the first shot, whereas the officers said the negroes in the house first fired on them.

His statement, too, was at variance with one he was reported to have made to Dr. Eugene A. Dibble, negro physician in charge of the Tuskegee hospital. It was reported that he told Dr. Dibble that he remained in his home to fight "and that he would have been fighting yet if his crowd hadn't run out on him." He is also reported to have told the physician that "he was sorry he didn't kill any of the officers."

James admitted talking to Dr. Dibble but said he told him that he was "sorry he didn't stay and shoot it out with the officers as it seems like he would have fared just as well if he had." He said he told the physician that he ran from the house when the firing began and that he did not tell him that he had barricaded himself in and fought

until the officers left.

Trouble About Money

James said the trouble was about some money he owed W. S. Parker, night, Notasulga merchant, on a 77-acre farm he had bought in 1924 for \$1,600. He said he owed \$950 on the farm and had not been able to pay anything this year.

"Mr. Parker not long ago came to me and said: 'Cliff, if you can't pay for your place I'll have to sell it,' the negro said.

"I said, 'Mr. Parker that will be tough on us.' I asked him to just give me a little time to raise something and buck up so I could have a showing.

"He told me he'd give me this year's interest on the place if I'd make a note for \$80 and that if I would agree to pay him the \$80 I could go on and owe him another year. I told him I didn't have \$80 and he told me to make him a note for it. I told him I would study on it.

"Monday Mr. Elder came. He said he had an attachment on my two mules and two cows.

"I told Mr. Elder that it looked like Mr. Parker ain't doing what he said, and that Mr. Parker had said he would allow me a showing.

"Mr. Elder said he didn't have nothing to do with that, that he had to carry out the law. Mr. Elder said, 'Cliff I'm trying to help you!'

"I said: 'Mr. Elder do you think it will help me to take my cows so my family can't have any milk?'

"I told Mr. Elder, 'you're the law, but I won't agree for you to get them but to go ahead and get them.'

"About that time Ned Cobb, he come up. He said, 'Mr. Elder please don't take 'em.'

"Mr. Elder, he said, 'Boys I'll tell you what I'm going to do. I'm going back and get some more men and come back here and kill you all in a pile!'

"It wasn't long until they come back. I heard Mr. Gantt say, 'which one is that?' And Mr. Elder, he say, 'there's Ned! And Mr. Gantt, he said, 'Ned, come here.' Ned said, 'Mr. Gantt I can't do didn't see any rifles and if any had pistols he didn't see 'em.'

"Ned ran into the room and Mr. Gantt shot. I ran through another room out of the house and down the hill. Somebody shot me in the shoulder. I fell in a ditch."

Describes His Flight

From this point the negro told in graphic detail of his suffering and flight to escape capture. He first went, he said to the home of Bertha Porch about a mile and a half away. Bertha was afraid to help him, he said, and he left.

"Bertha said: 'Cliff you'll have to leave here. Cliff Greathouse told me a mob was going about over the country and said he had beat up his wife and family.'

James said Bertha left him there that he lay down by the fire. The r

said he got two quilts and went into a loft in the crib where he remained through Monday night and Tuesday years.

"Two carloads of men come up there," James said. "One of 'em saw the blood on the floor of the house and said: 'Old Bertha must have been in that bunch too.' But that wasn't Bertha's blood. That was my blood.

"Then they came out to the crib. I heard one of 'em say 'have you got your pistol?' and the other said 'yes! Then he came in the crib and climbed up to the loft where I was and looked in. "Then I heard him say 'there's no body up here.'

Tuesday night, he said he emerged from hiding and Wednesday about day he reached a negro home, Stevenson's place, where he received something to eat. He carried the two quilts with him he said, but at each place he stopped he was told to move on. Wednesday he said he spent on the "low side of a hill in Sam May's field and near a creek near New Euphale where he remained under bushes until it got dark.

from which point he made his way to Tuskegee Institute. He said he asked the nurse there to give him a treatment and turn him over to Mr. Riley.

Given Medical Aid

The negro said he had been given medical aid at the hospital and in the Macon jail.

This was as much of the story as the negro told without questioning.

"Cliff?" he was asked, "there were some other men there in your house when the officers came back weren't they?"

"Yassir, they was some."

"About how many Cliff?"

"I don't know sir. Just a few."

"Did you have as many as 50 there?"

"No sir, not that many?"

"Well 25 then?"

"No sir, I guess they was about 15. Questioned further the negro admitted he saw "several guns" and that they were "breach loaders." He estimated he saw five breach loaders. He said he didn't see any rifles and if any had pistols he didn't see 'em.

"Well Cliff," the reporter asked "what were all these people doing at your place?"

"They just stopped by."

"What were they going to do with those guns?"

"They was rabbit hunting and just stopped by."

'Women Folks' Away.

James said his 18-year-old son was at home but that his wife had gone to a neighbor's after some meal, and his daughter, was in school.

He admitted that Deputy Elder told him he could make bond for the mules and cows, but said he told the Deputy he couldn't make bond.

The interview was granted upon permission of Sheriff Kyle Young, of Tallapoosa County and the newspaper-

man was shown every courtesy by Sheriff Riley and Deputy Rowell.

Mr. Parker's Version.

An entirely different view of the situation was given by W. S. Parker, Notasulga merchant, who told of having loaned James the money to buy the farm and having sold him groceries and other merchandise on credit over a period of

The negro, he said, now owes him \$1,500 not having paid any on the principal for the \$950 loaned him to buy the farm and with his store account getting larger every year through 1931.

"Until this year," Mr. Parker said, "James had been a good negro and each year paid what he could on his account. I didn't let him have any merchandise this year but told him to would help him all I could.

"I signed a waiver on any claim of his crop this year so he could get \$150 from the Government. Then I paid his taxes for him and loaned him \$6 to buy some plow tools. He agreed to give me a second mortgage on his crop after I had signed the waiver, but when I asked him to give me the second mortgage he refused to do it. He also refused to pay me the \$6. I told him that if he would give me a note for \$80 the first of next year I would carry over with him and that I would lose this year's interest on the money he owed me. The note was to become due October of next year and he refused to do that.

"The amount he owes me is more than the land and mules and cows are worth. I hated to attach the stock for the debt. It is the first attachment I ever issued. I did everything in reason to avoid it. But the negro had refused to pay me or to make any arrangements to try and pay what he owed. Several other negroes in that section this year have done the same thing and it was either issue the attachment or lose the money."

Mr. Parker said James bought the farm from T. M. Fuller and had paid him \$200. Then he sold the timber on the land and paid an additional \$450. It was in 1926 that he loaned him \$950 at 9 per cent interest to finish paying for the place, he said, and since that time the negro has not made enough to pay the interest to say nothing of the principal.

Asked what had become of the mules and cows, Mr. Parker said he had today loaned the mules to James's wife to move from Tallapoosa County to her step-mother's place in Macon County. He said a neighbor was keeping the cows for the milk.

Ned Cobbs and Judson Simpson were among other negroes, Mr. Parker said, who had refused to make any effort to pay their accounts to him. Until the first of this year, he said the negroes had always made efforts to pay as best they could and that he had never taken any legal steps against any of them.

This year, he said, Communist agitators had been among the negroes and he blamed such agitators for the attitude the negroes have taken in refusing to pay what they owe.

Just how much of the trouble was agitated by these ill-informed and unscrupulous "organizers," is not known by The Advertiser. But reliable officers have reported that radical, inflammatory literature of such organizations has been found in the homes of misled negroes.

The Constitution of the United States antees these organizations certain

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
ADVERTISER

DEC 22 1932

LABAMA, IGNORANCE AND HATRED

With the smell of gunpowder hardly lifted from the swamps in Tallapoosa County, The Advertiser makes no attempt to name the underlying causes of the unfortunate shooting of peace officers and Negroes in that section this week.

This far from the scene and with investigations and arrests still being made, this paper would not attempt to pass judgment on the case at this time. No one can weigh the facts judicially yet.

Even those persons near the scene or those who actually have been connected with the affair have not had time to look deeply into the background of the causes. Time will bring out the truth, the whole truth of the rioting.

But whatever the causes, and no matter just what person, or group of persons are responsible for the gun play and the wounding and killing of white men and negroes near Tallapoosa, Alabamians may prepare to find the name of this State blackened, grossly libeled by the drill sergeants of hatred.

Already the hasty executive secretaries of a half score of ever ready "protestor" organizations have sat in judgment of this case and returned a blanket indictment against the forces of law in Alabama.

Most of these paid professional secretaries have indicted the State of Alabama from "benches" far from the State. Most of them have never been in Alabama. Not many of them could be familiar with conditions here. Not one of them could know all the facts of the Tallapoosa County affair.

Yet they have sent sharply-worded telegrams to Alabama sheriffs and Gov. Miller containing unfounded charges and foolish demands.

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rights. And it is the duty of every State officer to protect those rights. It is the duty of every Alabama newspaper to aid in protecting those rights.

It is believed that officers and newspapers in Alabama always have respected the Constitutional rights of these organizations though sometimes their actions have caused impatience on the part of conscientious officers and the press.

But too often have these organizations over-stepped their guaranteed rights. Too often have they attempted to arouse hatred among a people who wish only for fair treatment and harmony.

Alabama can settle its difficulties without outside advice. Alabamians wish to guard the welfare of all its people. Most Alabama white men and most Alabama Negroes wish to be let alone by these frothy "defense" leagues.

Most people in this State, black and white, are too sensible for the radical groups to cause wide-spread trouble among Alabamians. There is no fear of that.

So far as Alabama is concerned this unfortunate Tallapoosa County trouble is over. Naturally there will be proper investigation to determine the causes. There will be trials. Citizens will not allow passion to rise over the incident.

But the violent-tempered individuals who send harsh telegrams to Governors and officers and judges will keep the case alive in the minds of the ignorant people outside this State and outside of this country.

If they follow their own tracks in the Scottsboro case, these protestors may be expected to ignore truth in their haste to play on the sympathies of people who are led blindly into a sham fight for "justice, humanity and civilization."

These organizers care nothing for justice.

They care not for humanity.

They exploit hatred among the ignorant to foster ideas that are political, not ideals of justice, as they claim.

N. Y. SUN

DEC 22 1932

SAYS ALIEN REDS

CATER TO NEGROES

Alabama Survey Warns of Drive in That State.

BIRMINGHAM, Dec. 22 (A. P.)

A warning that "certain sinister alien influences" are seeking deliberately to sow discord between Alabama whites and Negroes has been issued here in a report of a subcommittee of the Alabama Commission on Interracial Relationships.

The report, revealed yesterday by James D. Burton, commission secretary, said testimony and documentary evidence "beyond dispute" supported the subcommittee's contention such a condition exists and mentioned distribution of subversive literature and inflammatory propaganda.

"Behind this malevolent activity," the report continued, "there is able leadership, tireless energy, worldwide organization and apparently unlimited money."

"These apostles of revolution pretend friendship for the Negro, but in our judgment, are using him merely as a means to their own destructive ends."

"Communism, it appears, in its hope of world revolution, has chosen the Southern Negro as the American group most likely to respond to their revolutionary appeal."

The subcommittee reporting was headed by Dr. H. M. Edmonds, State chairman and pastor of the Independent Presbyterian Church at Birmingham, and included leading churchmen and educators.

It followed closely on a disturbance near Tallasee, Ala., which Monday resulted in the wounding of four deputy sheriffs in a gun fight with a large band of Negroes as the officers sought to attach a Negro farmer's livestock.

A subsequent hunt for ringleaders resulted in the slaying of at least one Negro, the wounding of several others and arrest of seven Negroes on charges of assault with attempt to murder. Officers blamed "racial incitation" for the outbreak.

White Editor Picks Job For Tuskegee

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 29.—(A. P.)—A sweet little job was fashioned for Tuskegee Institute by the editor of the Commercial Appeal who wrote his ideas into an editorial Wednesday, following an outbreak in Tallapoosa county, Alabama, near Tuskegee, in which one Negro was killed and four white people wounded.

Communists, under the aegis of the International Labor Defense, have been digging deeper and deeper into the economic ties under which white and colored sharecroppers in the benighted sections of Alabama are forced to labor, ever since the Scottsboro case became a public question.

There has been extensive evidence of an effort on the part of the Communists to organize these depressed classes. As a result, the vested white interests in some Alabama sections and the law-enforcing agencies have become radically conscious and have become unflinching in their ambition to restrict the spread of radical propaganda among the sharecroppers.

The action of the police takes the form of suppressing meetings held for the purpose, not of overthrow of the government, but of organization to demand a decent wage and improved laboring conditions. In July, 1931, a meeting held in a colored church at Camp Hill was broken up and one Negro was killed. The only charge made was that the parties to the meeting were radicals and possessed radical literature. Five of the men seized there were spirited away and have never been heard from since.

Monday's outbreak was inspired by the same cause. The sheriff thought the Negroes who were meeting were radicals and was determined that they should hold no meetings. That illustrates the difference between the conception of free speech in the north and free speech in the south. In the north they shoot them down.

Sheriff's deputies went to the house of Cliff James to attach two mules. The only charge against James was "racial incitation." After the shooting, as is usual, six Negroes were lodged in jail and charges are placed against them that they shot the deputies. Of course, the deputies had a perfect right to shoot to kill.

The Commercial Appeal is reminded that for a number of years Tuskegee has been issuing statistics on lynching. The editor believes these records have had a salutary effect on sentiment in the south and have aided in the annual down curve of lynchings. With

this problem out of the way, the editor suggests that the next and bigger job for Tuskegee is to tackle the Communists in Alabama and make nice quiet people out of all Negroes in the state.

The Commercial Appeal editor writes:

"The resistance to law (anything against the will of white people in the south is conceived as resistance to law) shown by the members (the sharecroppers who were attempting to hold a peaceable meeting)

seems to be a recognized bit of tactics in the communistic strategy that seeks the overthrow of our government. Law and order must certainly be made supreme. Also the normal functioning of government, in the delegation of power through ballots and not bullets (except as used by southern whites to suppress meetings among the Negroes,) must be preserved. It is obvious from the violence near Tuskegee that the enemies of law and order and of the present system of government have established a considerable foothold among the race that Tuskegee Institute is endeavoring to make into law-abiding useful citizens.

"It is plain, therefore, that there is additional and even more vital work ahead of the Tuskegee Institution. Lynchings are on the increase while Communism is growing. Plain should it be that the harder fight must be conducted against the greater menace."

After learning that the attorney's fee of his caller is to be paid by the International Labor Defense, Atty. Gen. Knight last night refused to grant the request of F. B. Irwin, Brooklyn, N. Y., lawyer, that he intercede for him with Montgomery County authorities so that he might interview alone and without the presence of the jailer, his clients, the three Negroes held in the county jail for complicity in the recent racial clash in Tallapoosa County.

The Attorney General's action in this instance is in line with that taken by him last week when he declined to discuss proposed action to be brought by two more International Labor Defense attorneys, George W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, and Irvin Schwob, of New York, to obtain the release through habeas corpus proceedings of two of the nine ne-

gros indicted at Scottsboro for criminally assaulting two white girls. As representatives of the International Labor Defense, Mr. Knight told Chamlee and Schwob at that time, he could not treat with them, as the organization they represented had shown no respect for the courts of this State, and of the nation. He repeated this statement last night to Mr. Irwin, stating he would not intercede for him with the sheriff, jailer or other authority, in order that he might see the three prisoners he sought to interview.

This matter, he advised Mr. Irwin, is one of prison discipline, and all grievances along this line should be addressed either to the sheriff of the county, or to the courts. He made it clear that he feels he should grant no concessions to International Labor Defense counsel or other representatives, for the reason he has stated.

Knight Cold To Attorney's Plea
Counsel For Negroes In Jail Here Repudiated And Denied Cooperation

After learning that the attorney's fee of his caller is to be paid by the International Labor Defense, Atty. Gen. Knight last night refused to grant the request of F. B. Irwin, Brooklyn, N. Y., lawyer, that he intercede for him with Montgomery County authorities so that he might interview alone and without the presence of the jailer, his clients, the three Negroes held in the county jail for complicity in the recent racial clash in Tallapoosa County.

Agriculture-1932 Labor Conditions.

More Work For Law And Order.

Tuskegee Institute, the Alabama technological school for negroes, largely fashioned by Booker T. Washington, every year gathers statistics on lynching. Although there are variations from year to year in the number of cases of mob violence, very happily the curve has been generally downward. We have no doubt that the gathering of the lynching statistics each year is a factor that helps in the reduction of all such lawlessness. Everyone is hopeful of the day when all crimes will be handled by the courts and all punishments administered by duly commissioned officers of the law. When this fortunate result has been achieved Tuskegee can claim its share of credit for establishment of the supremacy of law and order.

But a recent happening right in the Tuskegee region, and the circumstances surrounding it offer the opportunity to that institution to conduct a new campaign in behalf of order and lawful government. It seems that officers of the law had occasion to visit a negro cabin not so far away from Tuskegee. The officers met resistance and then summoned reinforcements. A large gathering of negroes had assembled and when the officers returned the negroes fired into the company of sheriffs and deputies. A battle ensued in which four officers were wounded. The details are vague concerning the casualties suffered by the negroes. It is said one was killed and others wounded.

A search of the cabin where the original violence occurred revealed a membership roll of a Communistic organization that is being formed among the negroes of the south. The resistance to law shown by the members seems to be a recognized bit of tactics in the Communistic strategy that seeks the overthrow of our government. Law and order most certainly must be made supreme. Also the normal functioning of government in the delegation of power through ballots and not bullets must be preserved. It is obvious from the violence near Tuskegee that the enemies of law and order and of the present system of government have established a considerable foothold among the race that Tuskegee Institute is endeavoring to make into law-abiding, useful citizens.

It is plain, therefore, that there is additional and even more vital work ahead of Tuskegee Institution. Lynchings are on the

decrease while Communism is growing. Plain should it be that the harder fight must be conducted against the greater menace.

TUUL PROTESTS ALABAMA TERROR

12-24-32
Calls on Workers to
Defend Negroes

NEW YORK.—A call for a mighty protest movement against the bloody attacks on Negro croppers and their union by the Alabama landlords and police was issued yesterday by the Trade Union Unity League over the signature of William Z. Foster, its general secretary. The call follows:

Only the organized protest and struggle of the white and Negro workers and farmers can put an end to the murderous expropriation of the Negro tenant farmers and sharecroppers now being carried through in Tallapoosa County, Alabama, and other sections of the South, by the white landlords and capitalists.

Attack On Living Standards

This attack is part and parcel of the attack now being waged by the ruling class against the living standards of the masses. This attack in Tallapoosa County is not an isolated attack. It is a continuation of the murder drive at Camp Hill, of the frameup of the nine Scottsboro boys, of the countless shootings and lynchings of Negro toilers by the white rulers in the South. It is part of the attempted capitalist way out of the still growing crisis.

In this attack the responsibility lies not alone on the white rulers of Alabama but also upon the shoulders of the Hoover Government and President-elect Roosevelt and his party which is solidly supported by the white southern ruling class. Responsibility for this attack also falls upon the shoulders of the socialist leaders who Jim Crow the Negro workers in the South, upon the shoulders of the leaders of the American Federation of Labor who only at the recent convention in Cincinnati reaffirmed their policy of barring Negro workers from joining the unions and Jim Crowing them into ineffective separate federal locals. Responsibility for this attack also falls upon the shoulders of the Negro misleaders, the Republican De Priest, the liberal supporters of Roosevelt and the socialist Randolph, all of whom are preaching obedience to the rule of the white masters.

Alabama

White Farmers Rally to Support It is encouraging to note how the poor white farmers and farm laborers of the South are rallying to the support of the Negro farmers. Here is a development before which the white rulers will be compelled to retreat. Here is a development which will unmask the Negro misleaders. But this support is still insufficient. The white workers and farmers the country over must take the lead in fighting for the rights of the Negro farmers, for the rights of all Negro toilers.

We call upon the white workers to join hands with the Negro toilers everywhere to protest this murderous attack. To demand from the Governor of Alabama, from the local officials from Hoover and Roosevelt that an immediate stop be put to the expropriation and murder. We call upon the white workers to join in the actual defense of their Negro brothers. We call upon unions of the TUUL, upon all workers organized in the A.F.L., the Railroad Brotherhoods, upon all white workers to adopt protest resolutions, to hold protest meetings. Demand the immediate release of all arrested. Demand the punishment of the white murderers. Demand indemnity to Negro farmers. Demand relief to starving Negro farmers. Let us not only stop this attack but develop a broad fight for the immediate needs and the rights of the Negro toilers.

WM. Z. FOSTER, Gen. Sec'y.
Trade Union Unity League

ORLANDO, FLA.
SENTINEL

NFC 2 2 1932

RADICAL NEGRO MOBS

Radicals usually are smart enough to pick unerringly the soil in which to plant their seed. The negro population in large cities has been the prey of crooked politicians and radical leaders for 50 years. Now they are turning their attention to the negroes of the rural sections.

Southern negroes, unmolested by outside influences, are not disturbers of the peace. Generally speaking, our negro population thinks in terms of Americanism and has no inclination to be radical. Especially are negro farmers inclined to lead a peaceful orderly life.

The recent negro radical exhibi-

tion in Alabama is the work of an imported radical element that is working among southern negroes. The more intelligent of the negro race see the dangers ahead and are warning their brethren against these radical leaders. Heroic treatment of these invaders of domestic peace and contentment among the colored people is a duty resting on public officials. The South has no use for these radicals that are imported from Russia, Sicily and Italy and who have made New York city their spawning place.

ALA. SHERIFF INCITES LYNCHING

12-24-32
Lies About Hunted
Share Croppers

DADEVILLE, Ala., Dec. 23.—Sheriff Young, leader of the landlord-police lynch gangs engaged in a murderous terror against Negro croppers of Tallapoosa County, yesterday continued his efforts to incite lynch feeling with the statement that he had received information "that several of the (hunted) Negroes are bad characters" and that there were indications "that Negroes throughout this section had been contributing firearms and ammunition to the organization," the Sharecroppers Union which the white landlords are trying to wipe out.

Solidarity of Negroes-White Croppers

Despite these efforts of lynch-incitement, the outstanding features in the struggle here are the firm solidarity of the local white croppers with the Negroes and the heroic resistance of the latter to the landlord-police attack. So marked is the sympathy of the white croppers with the Negroes that the boss press has been forced to take cognizance of it, both in editorials and news dispatches. Many of the dispatches admit that white croppers had gone to the aid of the Negroes and were hiding wounded Negroes in their cabins.

In contrast with this solidarity of the white and Negro croppers it is to be noted that the Negro reformists at the head of Tuskegee Institute turned over to the sheriffs a wounded Negro cropper who sought medical attention at the hospital of the Institute. This traitorous act of the Negro reformist leaders and their

support of the landlord terror in a statement urging the Negroes not to resist has evoked the praise of all the lynchers. Sheriff Golden of Montgomery County, one of the leaders in the man hunt in Tallapoosa County, in an attack on the Sharecroppers Union which is leading the croppers in the struggle against starvation, cutting off of their rations, and the right to sell their own cotton, declares:

"The Negro leaders in Montgomery County are too intelligent to

DEC 1 3 1932

OUR NEGRO FARMERS

At Tallahassee last week, negroes from many sections of the state gathered for the 28th annual farmers' conference at the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical college for negroes. It is important that the state, as well as the counties make the negro as self supporting as possible. The negro is naturally a farmer, out door life makes him strong and hardy and capable of performing the work that is necessary on a farm. The more efficient we make him, the better citizen he will become, and the cheaper it will be for the state. So what we spend in educating the negro is not only lessening the danger from unpleasant occurrences, but also a profitable investment.

Farming in Florida can be made profitable if the farmer knows how to farm, but it also can be a great failure if we go at it blindly and ignorant. As this is the natural home of the negro, he should be among our best farmers, which should give him a degree of independence which could well be the envy of persons in many stations of life, during these difficult times.

LAWLESSNESS IN ALABAMA

Alabama is still in the limelight. This state was made especially famous on account of the Scottsboro case, the Chapel Hill affair, the Peterson arrest and trial, and now the occurrence this week which has added to the list. The happening this week is an out-cropping of the Chapel Hill affair where the meetings of share croppers were invaded and attempts were made to prevent similar gatherings. These gatherings are being objected to by the farmers. As is generally known, the share croppers, not only of Alabama but of other southern states, are not usually dealt with in a straightforward manner, especially when it comes to cash settlements. Many distressful accounts can be given by colored croppers who have been denied their year's just earnings and in many cases driven away empty handed. The worm is about to turn. These share croppers in certain parts of Alabama at-

tempted to organize in order to resist the advantage taken of them during all of these years. This solidarity of action is being objected to by the land owners who have waxed fat from the labors of the croppers, and who do not want a changed condition. This is the background of the trouble at Chapel Hill and that of the past week in Tallapoosa county. It is but natural for the sheriffs of the various communities to play in the hands of the land owners. Various attempts are made to prevent a spread of the share croppers' organization, especially in an illegal way. One of the methods adopted was the one that caused the recent trouble. No doubt, the attempted levying on the colored man's mules may be devoid of that which is legal. At any rate, it is not the general attitude of colored men to open fire on any one without some just cause. The sheriff claims that this was done. The attitude of the average officers in dealing with colored people is well known. They are overbearing and insulting. The average colored man will not stand for this kind of treatment, hence the cause of most trouble reported by these officers. It is gratifying to note that able lawyers will be secured to defend the men under arrest. In no better way can the method of these officers be shown up. Untrammelled lawyers can do so and cause the state to be humbled on account of such unwanted treatment as was done in the decision of the Scottsboro case.

Another Fairy Tale, 2 Whites Battle 100 Negroes, Kill 3

Richmond, Va. —

Tallahassee, Ala., Dec. — Continuing an old tradition, the South has again exhumed the old fairy-tale of three or four white men being assaulted by a hundred armed Negroes—with the result, as always, that three Negroes are dead, more are being shot as the hours drag on, and three white men were merely injured.

The frame-work of the story is based upon some Communist propaganda and a visit paid by white deputy sheriffs to the home of Cliff James to make an attachment of some live-stock.

As the two burley representatives of the famous Alabama law approached the house, which, in all probability, was a one or two-room frame shack on the plantation of some white land-owner, what should they see except a whole army of Negroes, armed with rifles, shot-guns, knives and what have you, all marching in battle array to defend their friend's horses and cows or whatever the white officers were seeking.

Believe it or Not

As always, the brave white man, only

two in number, "fought it out" with the raging black army and retired only when their ammunition gave out. Despite the fact that these hundred Negroes were shooting at them all of the time, they escaped to their automobiles and rode safely and boldly away to seek aid. Finding it, they returned; only to find that the same huge army was still entrenched against them, ambushing them at every step.

The battle raged—and when the smoke and powder-fumes had cleared away, it was found that the only deaths had been on the side of the surging black army. Three Negroes had been killed; others wounded and still others seeking shelter in the woods and ravines. The brave white officers of the law were merely "injured".

State Militia to the Rescue

That is the story as the valiant "survivors" of the attack told it to the justice-loving Governor of Alabama and the Montgomery authorities; and lest this huge, heavily-armed black army—which was unable to hit a single white man effectively—again assemble, the governor is preparing to send the Alabama State Militia in to the Tallahassee section.

This is the same old sore-backed story. A hundred Negroes cannot hit a single white man. Fairy tales told in court to legalize the wholesale killing of Negroes.

Make Communists the Goats

But, of course, somebody must be blamed for this "uprising", and so, on to the backs of the Communists goes the burden. A letter from the Sharecroppers Union headquarters in Birmingham was found in the James house—ah! the Communists, they're responsible!

Down through the years, Negroes who have seen military service have been famed for their natural use of firearms. In the Civil War they could and did mow down row upon row of Confederates. In the Spanish-American fight they took on the King's finest with an ease unusual; and in the late World War they did not even wait to see the whites of the Germans' eyes—but in an Alabama scrap they were killed off by two or three brave white men, and couldn't hit a one.

This story should have its rightful place among the Arabian Nights—A Mid-summer Night's Dream—and all of its kind. Now you tell one.

Agriculture - 1932

Labor Conditions

Says Tuskegee Must Take Stand Against Communist

Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 30—(ANP)—A sweet little job was fashioned for Tuskegee institute by the editor of the Commercial Appeal who wrote his ideas into an editorial Wednesday, following an outbreak in Tallapoosa county, Ala., near Tuskegee, in which one Negro was killed and four white deputies wounded.

Communists, under the aegis of the International Labor Defense, have been digging deeper and deeper into the economic inequities under which white and colored share croppers in the benighted sections of Alabama are forced to labor, ever since the Scottsboro case became a public question. There has been extensive evidence of an effort on the part of the communists to organize these depressed classes.

As a result, the vested white interests in some Alabama sections and the law-enforcing agencies have become radical conscious and have become unrelenting in their ambition to restrict the spread of radical propaganda among the sharecroppers.

The action of the police takes the form of suppressing meetings held for the purpose, not of overthrow of the government, but of organizations to demand a decent wage and improved laboring conditions. In July, 1931 a meeting held in a colored church at Camp Hill was broken up and one Negro was killed. The only charge made was that the parties to the meeting were radicals and possessed radical literature. Five of the men seized there were spirited away and have never been heard from since.

Monday's outbreak was inspired by the same cause. The sheriff thought the Negroes who were meeting were radicals and was determined they should hold no meetings. That illustrates the difference between the conception of free speech in the north and free speech in the south. In the south they shoot them down.

Sheriff's deputies went to the house of Cliff James to attach two mules. The only charge against James was "radical incitation."

After the shooting, as is usual, six Negroes were lodged in jail and charges are placed against them that they shot the deputies. Of course, the deputies had a perfect right to shoot to kill.

The Commercial Appeal is reminding

and out murder carried out jointly by the landlords and their police and the Negro reformist heads of Tuskegee Institute, which is under the control of Rockefeller".

SOUTHERN DAILY LAYS UPRISING TO RADICALS

"Commercial Appeal" Rates Communism As Greater
Menace Than Lynching—Says Tuskegee
Faces Big Job.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 29—(ANP)—A sweet little job was fashioned for Tuskegee Institute by the editor of the Commercial Appeal, who wrote his ideas into an editorial Wednesday, following an outbreak in Tallapoosa County, near Tuskegee, in which one Negro was killed and four white deputies wounded.

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"The resistance to law (anything against the will of white people is the South is conceived resistance to law) shown by the members (the share croppers who were attempting to hold a peaceable meeting) seems to be a recognized bit of tactics in the Communistic strategy that seeks the overthrow of our government. Law and order most certainly must be made supreme. Also the normal functioning of government, in the delegation of power through ballots and not bullets (except as used by Southern whites to suppress meetings among Negroes), must be preserved. It is obvious from the violence near Tuskegee that the enemies of law and order and of the present system of government have established a considerable foothold among the race that Tuskegee Institute is endeavoring to make into law-abiding, useful citizens.

"It is plain, therefore, that there is additional and even more vital work ahead of the Tuskegee institution. Lynchings are on the decrease while Communism is growing. Plain should it be that the harder fight must be conducted against the greater menace."

Negroes' Counsel Demand Release

A petition for a writ of habeas corpus seeking the release from jail of three negroes held in the Tallapoosa disorders here yesterday was filed with Judge Leon McCord, of the Montgomery Circuit Court by Atty. F.B. Irwin, of Brooklyn, N.Y., as counsel for the negroes.

Judge McCord set Jan. 5 as the date for a hearing on the petition.

The petition named Cliff James and Milo Bentley, who died Tuesday, as two of the negroes whose release was sought and probably was drawn before the death of the negroes. Other prisoners named are Ivy, Thomas and Jug Moss, who are in the Montgomery County Jail.

Counsel alleged that the prisoners are restrained from liberty, are held on charges unknown to the petitioner, and that the negroes were refused the right of consultation with counsel, and that the prisoners had committed no crime.

On Monday two men appeared at the county jail and represented themselves as counsel for the negroes but were denied admission by Chief Deputy John Scogin in the absence of any statement of identification and permission from Sheriff Kyle Young, of Tallapoosa County.

The Commercial Appeal editor writes:

Notasulga Merchant Gives Background Of Recent Tallapoosa County Disturbance

By W. S. PARKER

Because of my familiarity with the background of the unfortunate shooting of peace officers and negroes in Tallapoosa County recently, and because it is apparent that certain sinister influences which I believe are responsible for the trouble, are attempting to make capital of the case, I feel that it is my duty to help avoid possible future trouble in other parts of the State by giving a true account of the incident, so far as I am able.

I am the holder of the mortgage on the cow and mule of Cliff James, the Negro at whose home the trouble happened.

But first, I would like to identify myself. For the last 25 or 30 years I have been in the mercantile business in Notasulga, and have been making advancements on crops to white and Negro farmers.

It always has been to my advantage to protect the welfare of my customers. Persons who understand crop advancement systems will understand that my own welfare depends on the prosperity of my customers.

During the whole of my 25 or 30 years in business, in which I have made hundreds of advancements and loans I had never foreclosed on a mortgage until I was forced to take action on the account of Cliff James a few weeks ago.

I always had enjoyed the confidence of my customers until the last few years when there arose a lack of cooperation which I could not understand.

Getting to the case of Cliff James, I would like to fully explain the history of my dealings with the Negro.

James, who is about 40 or 45 years of age, has been living in the Notasulga district all of his life. I have known him about as long as I can remember.

In the Fall of 1926 James came to me and asked to borrow money from me to buy a farm from Mr. R. M. Fuller, from whom he had been renting for about three or four years.

I lent James money. He paid \$200 as a first payment on the land, and Mr. Fuller helped him sell timber from the land for \$450 which he paid Mr. Fuller. I lent James \$950 and took a mortgage on the land.

Everything was agreeable, and I considered the loan a good one as James had been an able farmer, and always had been honest in his dealings with me.

In the Spring of 1927, I advanced James money, food and implements so that he could make a crop and took a mortgage on the crop. Since then I have sold the Negro three mules on credit.

The account now amounted to over \$1,500. Although the price of cotton dropped and James had been unable to pay me, I considered the account agreeable because I understood the effect of the low market on the farmers.

This year James came to me, needing money. He asked that I give him a release on his land so that he could borrow money from the Government through the seed loan plan. This was agreeable. James in turn promised to give me a second mortgage on his crop.

In the meantime the taxes came due on the negro's land. I paid the taxes.

After signing the release for James I waited for him to come in and give me a second mort-

gage on the crop as he had promised. But he did not come by to see me.

When James's crop was made, still he did not pay me, and he still had not come by to see me about signing the note. He admitted that he had made enough money from the crop to pay the Government loan, and that he had about \$30 left. But he made no attempt to straighten his affairs with me.

The first of this October I saw James and told him that if he did not make an attempt to pay me, or show some spirit of cooperation, I would be forced to turn over the papers for collection. He showed very little interest in the discussion. And he never came to see me, or attempted to make any arrangements.

About Nov. 25 I went out to see James again. I met him in the road, accosted him in a friendly spirit and told him I had come out to give him something. I told him that we could make some kind of arrangement whereby he could pay me. I pointed out that it was necessary that some kind of arrangement be made.

I told James I would give him the cows if he would deed me the land, and also I had in mind giving him the mules, if he showed some disposition to reach an agreement.

This did not seem to suit him.

I then asked him what he had in mind, and I told him I would not release his land another year due to the experiences with him this year, and as he had failed to keep his promises, did not pay me or make any attempt to pay or show any cooperation.

I asked the Negro point blank what he intended to do about the debts. He said that he would "do what he had in mind to do when the time comes."

At this moment it was hard to understand James's actions. In my dealing with Negroes I have found that usually they are quick to make promises, even though they may not at the time know how they will keep them. I drove off trying to think of some other proposition to make the Negro because I wanted to get some action on it.

After thinking it over I came back to James

in about 30 minutes and offered him a new and easier proposition. I told him that his account now amounted to \$1,500 but that if he and his wife would give me a new note for \$1,000 on the land, which would mean only \$50 interest for five years, and that if he would pay the interest every year I would let it go on that way for five years, without disturbing him.

James did not show much interest in the proposition, but I told him to let me know by Monday night if he decided to accept. (It was Thursday when we had the conversation.)

James did not come. And on next Tuesday, Mr. Fuller, from whom he bought the farm, was in my store. Mr. Fuller had dealt with James, and always had been friendly with him. He said the Negro always had paid his rent on time and that he had kept his promises.

Mr. Fuller, having an interest in James because of the dealings he had had with him, suggested that he would send a Negro, Tom Moss, from his plantation to talk with James about my accounts.

Mr. Fuller told me he sent Moss to see James that day, but he did not see Moss until the following Saturday. Tom asked James if he

had the money to pay me, Mr. Fuller said.

Moss told Mr. Fuller that James said he "had good backing," but did not mention whom.

The spirit among several Negroes in the vicinity had grown serious by this time. They made no attempt to show cooperation in reaching agreement on debts. It was strange that they did not complain about hard times or offer excuses as would have been natural for them to do under the circumstances.

I told James that I would be forced to turn the papers over to a lawyer for collection if he would not attempt to make some kind of arrangement. But he did not seem to regard a foreclosure as serious.

While the Negro had met reverses from the conditions as all of us had, he was far from being in destitute circumstances. He had a smokehouse full of meat, with meat and lard, corn, syrup, potatoes and peas enough to last about six months. He also had two big fat hogs, big enough to kill.

The reaction among James and several other Negroes, who before had shown a spirit of cooperation to the mentioning of foreclosures seemed to point conclusively that there was some sort of sinister influence at work among them.

Realizing that nothing else could be done to reach a settlement I turned the case over to Mr. J. W. Strothers, a Dadeville lawyer.

It is my understanding that Mr. Strothers turned the attachment over to Sheriff Kyle Young, who in turn turned the papers over to Mr. W. C. Elder, a deputy sheriff in the district where James lives. It is also my understanding that Sheriff Young instructed the deputy to accept bond if proposed.

Deputy Elder, I understand, went alone to serve the papers. The happenings from that time on is known by the public about as well as I know them.

Notasulga, Ala.

Agriculture - 1932
Labor Conditions.

Alabama

NEGRO REFORMIST ALLIES OF THE LANDLORDS

Daily Worker 12-24-32
How N. A. A. C. P. Aids Boss Terror in South

New York
By JAMES W. FORD

When the white landlords of Alabama this week sent out their posses to murder the Negro share-croppers who were organizing into the Croppers' Union, they knew that they could count on the unqualified support of the misleaders of the reformist Negro and white organizations, particularly the misleaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The landlords had good reason to know this. When, in July of last year, the share-croppers of Camp Hill, Alabama, heroically defended themselves against the terror of the landlords, the N.A.A.C.P. rushed forward, first and foremost, to assure the landlords that it had had no part in the organization of the starving Negro farmers. As Eugene Gordon, well-known militant Negro writer, said at the time: "The only evidence the Association has shown that it knows the struggle is going on at Camp Hill is Mr. William Pickens' denial that the N.A.A.C.P. had anything to do with it."

Reformists Justify Murder.

The N.A.A.C.P. also hastened to justify the murder of the Negro farmer, Ralph Gray, by claiming that the blame was not to be placed upon the white landlords and sheriff, but upon the "Communists" who were active in organizing these croppers against landlords. In other words, says the N.A.A.C.P., the croppers should not have been so foolish as to organize, nor should militant leaders have assisted and led them in this work of organization. Had the croppers only been content to sit back quietly, accept their starvation and misery and say and do nothing about it, the massacre of the croppers would never have occurred!

What did the Negro reformists, the upholders of the white landlords and white bosses and the whole boss-landlord system, have to say when they received word of the heroic struggle of the Camp Hill croppers? Here are some samples of their treachery:

Said W. E. B. DuBois, editor of the Crisis, organ of the N.A.A.C.P.:

"The final exhibit at Camp Hill is worthy of the Russian Black Hundreds, whoever promoted it: black share-croppers, half-starved and desperate, were organized into a 'Society for the Advancement of Colored People' (this is itself a lie.

—J.W.F.) and were induced to meet and protest against Scottsboro."

A terrible crime, Mr. DuBois! These "backward" share-croppers dared to protest against the murder of eight innocent Negro boys when the well-educated, bootlicking officials of the N.A.A.C.P. staff hung back threw doubt on the boys' innocence! ("When we hear that eight colored men have raped two white girls in Alabama we are not the first in the field to defend them," boasted the "Crisis" in October, 1931). But the share-croppers didn't agree with the N.A.A.C.P. misleaders that the Scottsboro boys should be left to the mercies of the Southern courts! "If

this was instigated by Communists," says Mr. DuBois, "it is too despicable for words."

Defense of Capitalists.

Then comes the crowning lie.

"The persons who are killing blacks in Northern Alabama and demanding blood sacrifice are the white workers — share-croppers, trade unionists and artisans. The capitalists are against mob-laws and violence (!) and would listen to reason and justice in the long run."

The reason and justice that Mr. DuBois refers to are no doubt the reason and justice that are starving out the croppers and farmers; that are doing their best to burn the Scottsboro boys; that murdered and lynched thousands of Negroes for many years before the Communist Party was organized!

Who send the sheriff's posses to kill the croppers? Who is responsible for the starvation of the croppers? The white landlords!

There is increasing evidence of the growing sympathy of the white croppers with the Negroes. Only today we learn that the posse that killed three Negroes in Tallahassee had to be recruited from neighboring counties, because the white farmers in the immediate region were highly sympathetic with the aims of the Negro croppers. In its work of dividing the working class along race line, the bosses have certainly found an excellent ally in Mr. DuBois.

Said Mr. William Pickens, field organizer of the N.A.A.C.P., in a statement to the press in August, 1931:

"It must have been the aim of Communist agitators to deliberately muddle up the matter and stir up trouble." If thousands of Negro farmers and their children

quietly starve and die without protest, that is not "trouble," according to Mr. Pickens. But if the Negro croppers insist on organizing and making demands of the landlords and bosses, if they WILL fight for their rights and for decent living conditions in spite of everything Mr. Pickens can do to stop them—then they need expect no sympathy or help from Pickens or any of his gang. And there is nothing Mr. Pickens fears more than "trouble" for the bosses and landlords.

Said Pickens in Chattanooga in 1931:

"Let the white people of Alabama sit up and take notice: this Communism sapping through the densely ignorant portion of the colored population, while not immediately menacing government itself, is certainly menacing to good race relations." (Here Mr. Pickens no doubt refers to the "good relation" which have been responsible for lynchings, murders by white police, the Ku Klux Klan, a double economic burden for the Negro, and widespread disfranchisement.)

Said Walter White:

"The N.A.A.C.P. had no connection with the Camp Hill organization."

This statement was intended both for the white bosses, who might possibly be misled as to the intentions of their very best allies, and also for the rank and file of the N.A.A.C.P., who might mistakenly expect help and sympathy from the leaders of their organizations.

The landlords, bosses and sheriffs of the South have no better allies than the N.A.A.C.P. misleaders.

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Since the above article was written, some of the Negro papers which support the present system of white-landlordism and all that it implies have completely justified the statement that the landlords and sheriffs of the South have no better allies than just these misleaders.

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the landlords and sheriffs themselves, the New York Age blames the organizers of the croppers for the murders committed at the landlords' orders. The Age says:

"Officers engaged in the encounter expressed the belief that the trouble was partly due to the distribution of radical literature in this section. It was but a few miles from the scene of another disturbance in July 1931, in which an officer was shot and a Negro killed when the Sheriff's force attempted to disperse an alleged meeting of the Share Croppers Union."

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TROUBLE WITH COMMUNISM

Birmingham Reporter

There comes now from Tallahassee, Alabama, a report of race riots. This time a cow, a mule and the Communists are the underlying cause. It will be remembered that this area has been heard from in recent months with something of the same story of Communist activity.

It would seem that some way might be found to settle minor problems without resorting to this type of warfare. As to Communist activities in rural districts, we don't think that the danger justifies such drastic action. There must be something in the Communism or the harm that Communism might do to excite such war-like activities. 12-24-32

We have often and continuously advised our people against the having of Communist literature or the taking part in Communist meetings.

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It is certain that Communism organized in rural districts cannot do the kind of harm that may be done in large centers of population. It seems to be equally as certain that there is some foolhardiness on the part of Negroes and stinging prejudices on the part of white people that lead to such a state of things.

It is to be very much regretted that at this time when back-to-the-farm movement seems to be a safe and sure means of solving some of the problems of the depression, that a scare of this kind, portending to disturb the relations between the white farmer and the Negro farmer, should arise.

We have only the press reports of the story and on that we cannot have much to say as to the responsibility, but under the influence of better relations—relations that should exist in every rural community, the best of the white people and the best of the Negroes might under all circumstances, avoid such calamities. They do no good to either party. There is nothing whatever to be gained by them—nothing to the white man and nothing

Too much of the fertile land of Alabama is already grown up in sassafras shrubbery on account of this very sort of thing. And, we would admonish our people to avoid anything that looks like Communism in order to make and to keep our interests safe among our friends. We are sure that this unnecessary thing could not have happened under so small a pretense without some foolhardiness from both the irresponsible white man and the irresponsible Negro.

NEGRO REFORMIST ALLIES OF THE LANDLORDS

How N. A. A. C. P. Aids Boss Terror in South

New York Times
By JAMES W. FORD

When the white landlords of Alabama this week sent out their posse to murder the Negro share-croppers who were organizing into the Crop-Pers' Union, they knew that they could count on the unqualified support of the misleaders of the reformist Negro and white organizations, particularly the misleaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The landlords had good reason to know this. When, in July of last year, the share-croppers of Camp Hill, Alabama, heroically defended themselves against the terror of the landlords, the N.A.A.C.P. rushed forward, first and foremost, to assure the landlords that it had had no part in the organization of the starving Negro farmers. As Eugene Gordon, well-known militant Negro writer, said at the time: "The only evidence the Association has shown that it knows the struggle is going on at Camp Hill is Mr. William Pickens' denial that the N.A.A.C.P. had anything to do with it."

Reformists justify Murder.
The N.A.A.C.P. also hastened to justify the murder of the Negro farmer, Ralph Gray, by claiming that the blame was not to be placed upon the white landlords and sheriff, but upon the "Communists" who were active in organizing these crop-pers against landlords. In other words, says the N.A.A.C.P., the crop-pers should not have been so foolish as to organize, nor should militant leaders have assisted and led them in this work of organization. Had the crop-pers only been content to sit back quietly, accept their starvation and misery and say and do nothing about it, the massacre of the crop-pers would never have occurred!

What did the Negro reformists, the upholders of the white landlords and white bosses and the whole boss-landlord system, have to say when they received word of the heroic struggle of the Camp Hill crop-pers? Here are some samples of their treachery:

Said W. E. B. DuBois, editor of the Crisis, organ of the N.A.A.C.P.: "The final exhibit at Camp Hill is worthy of the Russian Black Hundreds, whoever promoted it: black share-croppers, half-starved and desperate, were organized into a 'Society for the Advancement of Colored People' (this is itself a lie.

—J.W.F.) and were induced to meet and protest against Scottsboro."

A terrible crime, Mr. DuBois! These "backward" share-croppers dared to protest against the murder of eight innocent Negro boys when the well-educated, bootlicking officials of the N.A.A.C.P. staff hung back three doubt on the boys' innocence! "When we hear that eight colored men have raped two white girls in Alabama, we are not the first in the field to defend them," boasted the "Crisis" in October, 1931. But the share-croppers didn't agree with the N.A.A.C.P. misleaders that the Scottsboro boys should be left to the mercies of the Southern courts! "If this was instigated by Communists," says Mr. DuBois, "it is too despicable for words."

Defense of Capitalists.

Then comes the crowning lie. "The persons who are killing blacks in Northern Alabama and demanding blood sacrifice are the white workers—share-croppers, trade unionists and artisans. The capitalists are against mob-laws and violence (!) and would listen to reason and justice in the long run."

The reason and justice that Mr. DuBois refers to are no doubt the reason and justice that are starving out the crop-pers and farmers; that are doing their best to burn the Scottsboro boys; that murdered and lynched thousands of Negroes for many years before the Communist Party was organized!

Who send the sheriff's posse to kill the crop-pers? Who is responsible for the starvation of the crop-pers? The white landlords!

There is increasing evidence of the growing sympathy of the white crop-pers with the Negroes. Only today we learn that the posse that killed three Negroes in Tallapoosa had to be recruited from neighboring counties, because the white farmers in the immediate region were highly sympathetic with the aims of the Negro crop-pers. In its work of dividing the working class along race line the bosses have certainly found an excellent ally in Mr. DuBois.

Said Mr. William Pickens, field organizer of the N.A.A.C.P., in a state ment to the press in August, 1931: "It must have been the aim of Communist agitators to deliberately muddle up the matter and stir up trouble." If thousands of Negro farmers and their children

quietly starve and die without protest, that is not "trouble," according to Mr. Pickens. But if the Negro crop-pers insist on organizing and making demands of the landlords and bosses, if they WILL fight for their rights and for decent living conditions in spite of everything Mr. Pickens can do to stop them—then they need expect no sympathy or help from Pickens or any of his gang. And there is nothing Mr. Pickens fears more than "trouble" for the bosses and landlords.

Said Pickens in Chattanooga in 1931:

"Let the white people of Alabama sit up and take notice: this Communism sapping through the densely ignorant portion of the colored population, while not immediately menacing government itself, is certainly menacing to good race relations." (Here Mr. Pickens no doubt refers to the "good relation" which have been responsible for lynchings, murders by white police, the Ku Klux Klan, a double economic burden for the Negro, and widespread disfranchisement.) Said Walter White:

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PROTEST GROW AGAINST MASS ARRESTS OF NEGRO CROPPERS IN ALABAMA

More Lynch Gangs Recruited from Outside
Tallapoosa County; White Croppers' Homes
Searched for Negroes

Farmers Relief Conference, W.I.R., and Others
Join Nation-Wide Protests Against
Landlord Terror

DEMAND RELEASE

NEGRO CROPPERS

Denounce Attacks by
Landlords

BULLETIN

NEW YORK.—Capitalist press reports from Birmingham state that a change of venue for the Scottsboro Negro boys' trial will be taken to Birmingham. They state that Attorney Irving Schwab is there for the International Labor Defense.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Lem Harris, executive secretary of the Farmers' National Relief Conference, yesterday telegraphed Gov. B. M. Miller of Alabama, and Sheriff Kyle Young of Tallapoosa County, Ala., protesting in the name of farmers of 26 states the bloody landlord-police terror against Negro croppers in Tallapoosa and adjoining counties. The telegram reads: "The Farmers' National Relief Conference representing farmers and farm organizations in twenty-six states emphatically protests armed warfare against Negro farmers in Tallapoosa and adjoining counties on return of their delegates from the Farmers' National Relief Conference in Washington. According to the Associated Press the armed attack by deputies grew out of an attempt to confiscate livestock of a Negro farmer without which he could not produce foodstuffs for himself and his family. Fighting for the right to live Negro farmers were shot, arrested, terrorized and hunted through hills and swamps by fifty cars of armed possemen.

For Right To Organize.
"From press reports we feel the campaign is being waged against Share Croppers Union in Alabama. We insist that the right of farmers to organize for security and a decent standard of living guaranteed by United States Constitution be upheld and protected by all the forces at your disposal. We demand immediate cessation of persecution, release of Bentley, Cobb and other share croppers under arrest, prosecution of those responsible for the murders of John McMullen, Judson Simpson and other Negro farmers. We hold you responsible for the safety of those arrested."
Farmers' National Relief Conference,
Lem Harris, Executive Secretary.

Crispus Club Protests.

NEW YORK.—At a discussion on the Daily Worker last night, the new Crispus Attucks Club at 2330 Tilden Avenue, Williamsburg, hailed the support given by the Daily Worker to the rising struggles of the oppressed Negro masses in the South, and unanimously voted to send a telegram to Gov. B. M. Miller of Alabama protesting against the landlord-police terror on Negro croppers in Tallapoosa County.

For Right To Live.

NEW YORK.—The Workers International Relief yesterday pledged full support to the struggles of the Negro croppers in Alabama, and called upon all its branches and districts and on the whole working-class to vigorously protest the murderous terror against the Negro croppers. A statement issued by the W.I.R. declares, in part:

"The right to live for the Negro and white southern share croppers, their fight against starvation, disease and death, is based upon their right to speak freely, meet freely and organize."

Protest Meet in Norfolk.

NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 22.—The 10-woman teacher of Birmingham was cal Unemployed Council has sent also arrested, charged with "circula- vigorous protest to Gov. B. M. Miller of Alabama demanding a stop to the murderous landlord-police terror against Negro croppers in Tallapoosa and adjoining counties. The telegram demands punishment of the land- lead the lynch gangs. The homes of several white cropper gro croppers, known to have been rescued and protected by white crop- pers. The roads to the hills are crowded with Negro women babies in their arms fleeing the landlord terror.

NEGRO WOMEN

DRIVEN TO HILLS

Many With Babies in
Their Arms

DADEVILLE, Ala., Dec. 22.—Beaten back in their first terror drive against the Negro croppers by the splendid solidarity of white and Negro croppers of Tallapoosa County, the white landlords and their police are rallying additional forces from the adjoining counties for a new murderous drive against the Negroes. Over 250 white men, recruited outside of Tallapoosa County, are now patrolling the Liberty Hall section of Tallapoosa County where Monday's fighting occurred.

Conceal Number Dead.

The authorities continue their attempts to conceal the number killed in Monday's pitched battle when armed deputies attacked the croppers and attempted to seize the mule and cow of Clifford James, local leader of the Sharecroppers Union at Notasulga. John McMullen and Judson Simpson are two of the known dead among the croppers. That the bodies of other dead croppers are being concealed by the authorities is shown in the admission by Col. Moon, personal representative of Gov. Miller, of knowledge of "four or five dead Negroes laying about the field." Only the bodies of McMullen and Simpson have been recovered.

Mass Arrest of Negroes

Mass arrests of Negroes are being carried on in an attempt to seize the leaders of the Share Croppers Union which is leading the fight against starvation and landlord robbery of the already impoverished Negro croppers. At least 11 Negro croppers are known to be in jail. All are charged with "Communist activities" for daring to defend themselves against the murderous attacks of the landlords and for membership in the union. A Negro

Four Deputies Wounded

At least four deputies are known to have been wounded in Monday's battle. These are G. A. Ware, C. E. Elder, 'Stool' Alford and J. M. Gantt. The last two are from East Tallapoosa—further proof that Tallapoosa landlords were forced to recruit their "law and order" lynch gangs outside of Tallapoosa County on account of the strong sympathies of local white croppers with the Negro croppers as a result of the work carried on by the Share Croppers Union and its correct program of uniting white and Negro croppers in joint struggle against starvation.

While the authorities for the past three days have admitted that the struggle begun with the attempt to expropriate Clifford James of his property, they are now concocting a new story to the effect that there was a "Communist meeting" of Negro croppers at Liberty Hall, that the croppers were all armed and "looking for trouble" when the sheriff arrived at the scene of "the meeting."

It is reported that one of the wounded Negro croppers went to Tuskegee Institute Hospital for treatment of his wounds and was turned over to the landlord-police lynch gangs by the reformist heads of that institution.

Many of the arrested croppers have been tortured in jail in an attempt to extort information about the Sharecroppers Union and its leaders. All are held incommunicado and are threatened with lynching.

The International Labor Defense has sent its representatives to Montgomery to take up the defense of the arrested croppers. All workers and organizations, and all persons opposed to the lynch terror, are urged to immediately send protest telegrams to Gov. B. M. Miller at Montgomery, Ala., and to Sheriff Kyle Young, at Dadeville, Ala., demanding a stop to the landlord-police terror, release of the arrested croppers and punishment of the

Agriculture - 1932

Labor Conditions.

TUSKEGEE HEADS BETRAY NEGRO CROPPER REFUGEES TO ALA. LANDLORD POLICE

Early morning
Aid Lynch-Incitements Drive Against Negro
Toilers, Saying *Cliff James* Said, "Wished
He Had Killed Deputies"

new York
I. L. D. Starts Fight To Force Recognition Of
Civil Rights Of Defendants To
Confer Privately With Attorneys

BULLETIN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—The Western Union Telegraph Company refused to send a telegram from a group of rank and file veterans in Washington protesting the Alabama outrages unless they changed the word "demand" to "request" in the wire. The veterans refused to submit to this censorship and sent their protest by air mail to Governor Miller of Alabama.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 25.—The surrender of Cliff James, Negro cropper leader, to police on Friday was effected by the Negro reformist heads of Tuskegee Institute. James, the leader of the Sharecroppers Union at Notasulga, Tallapoosa County, scene of the murderous landlord-police attacks on the croppers, had sought medical aid at the hospital at Tuskegee Institute. He is the second cropper refugee to have been betrayed by the Tuskegee heads and turned over to the landlord-police in charge of the Tuskegee hospital lynch gangs.

Dr. Moton and other Tuskegee leaders, in their anxiety to conceal their traitorous aid to the landlords against the struggle of the croppers, are attempting to make it appear that James had stayed in his cabin to resist by force of arms the attempt to expropriate his cow and company him to surrender. This lying version is sent out in a despatch by the Associated Press which is co-operating in the effort to prevent exposure of the real role of the Tuskegee leaders in order to prevent the destruction of their usefulness to the white lynchers. Dr. Moton, according to reliable confidential information, has suggested to the boss press the suppression of all news of the struggle in Tallapoosa County.

Back Lynch Inciters.

The Dibble story is being used as a basis for new lynch threats against the Negro toilers. The press is now attempting to justify the formation of the landlord-police lynch gangs on the basis of

the alleged statement of James with their attorney. Young and that he "wished he had killed de- the sheriffs of Wetumpka and puties." Opekia counties were constantly present taking notes.

Eleazar of the Atlanta Commission on Inter-racial Relations, visited Montgomery yesterday in an attempt to whitewash the bloody terror against the Negro croppers, the Sharecroppers Union and the I.L.D. He conferred with boss editors who have been howling for the blood of the arrested croppers, and with Gov. B. M. Miller, himself a large landowner in the "Black Belt" and the sheriffs directly involved in the attack on the Negro croppers.

Wounded Croppers Brought To Jail. Five of the arrested croppers were brought here Friday night to the Montgomery County jail by Sheriff Riley of Macom County. Three of them, Clifford James, Milo Bentle and Thomas Moss are serious wounded and have been placed in the hospital ward. The other two are Jiggy Moss and Ivy Moss. The Montgomery Advertiser carried a small item buried on an inside page explaining the move as due to the crowded condition of the jails in Tallapoosa and adjoining counties in the heart of the struggle. Sheriff Riley has refused information as to the whereabouts of other prisoners. The International Labor Defense attorneys here are taking steps to try to see the five prisoners here. According to the local boss press Sheriff Riley has ordered the five held incommunicado.

Donald Burke, southern organizer of the I.L.D., now in Montgomery to organize the defense of the arrested croppers, announced today that Frank B. Irwin of Birmingham has been employed by the I.L.D. to defend the croppers. Irwin arrived here on Thursday. Together with Mrs. E. M. Cooper, a representative of the I.L.D., he visited various jails where officials were declared holding the prisoners. After a conference with Sheriff Young and the solicitor of Tallapoosa County, Irwin was permitted to speak to ten prisoners held at Dadesville. These are Ned Cobb, Emmet Wood, Cornelius Wood, Walter Pogue, Lloyd Simpson, Wilbur Cobb, Edgar Cobb, Clinton Moss and Alfred White. Irwin also saw Andrew Cobb at the Wetumpka County jail and Sam Moss at the Opelika County jail.

In every instance, Mrs. Cooper, I. L. D. representative, was refused permission to speak to the defendants. Sheriff Young stated he would not permit any representative of the I. L. D. to speak to his prisoners. Young also denied the constitutional rights of the defendants to speak privately

bears a close parallel to battles fought in Iowa and Wisconsin between farmers and sheriff's deputies seeking to serve eviction papers.

Thoughtful citizens in Tallapoosa, Macon and Elmore counties do not blame the negroes primarily, but rather the Communist agents who incited them to resist the law.

A good many farmers, ground down by the same relentless economic pressure from which the negroes were suffering, expressed sympathy with the negroes' desperate plight, although thoroughly disapproving of their resistance to the law.

Happening in the shadow of Tuskegee institute, where Booker T. Washington preached his sermons of racial co-operation and where Robert R. Moton has carried the work on since, these disturbances are doubly unfortunate.

It is the ignorance of the negro which makes him a prey to the incendiary literature with which the mail boxes of both white and negro farmers of Tallapoosa county have been stuffed. It is this literature which transforms him from a peaceful and law-abiding citizen into one who defies the law.

The average negro in his normal state of mind does not consider firing on officers seeking to carry out the law.

I. L. D. Defends Victims

The I. L. D. has announced that it will defend all of the victims of the outrageous landlord-police attack on the Negro croppers organization to resist landlord robbery of their crops and for the right to live. In a statement, Burke declared "the I. L. D. will wage a determined and continuous fight for the rights of southern workers and farmers to organize and to exercise freedom of speech and assembly."

"The I. L. D. will not be intimidated in the fight for the Scottsboro boys and the Tallapoosa croppers by attacks made on it, such as the police raid of its southern district officers in Birmingham and the arrests of its representatives."

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

Post
DEC 22 1932

NOT A RACE RIOT

It would be exceedingly superficial to regard the disturbance between negro farmers and sheriff's deputies at Reeltown as a "race riot." The relatively small extent to which race prejudice factored in the affair is one of the things that impressed newspaper reporters most deeply.

The causes of the trouble were essentially economic rather than racial. The resistance of the negroes at Reeltown against officers seeking to attach their livestock on a lien

MASS INDIGNATION AGAINST MURDERERS OF NEGROES SWEEPS OVER THE SOUTH

**Huge Mass Funeral Planned in Birmingham
for Cliff James and Milo Bentley Next
Monday as Protests Grow**

**United Move of White and Negro Toilers force
Release of Four of Jailed Croppers—Must
Push Fight for Release of Others**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 29.—Mass indignation swept the working-class districts of this city yesterday with the news of the deaths in jail of the two cropper leaders Cliff James and Milo Bentley—the two latest victims of the murderous landlord-police terror unleashed on Dec. 29 against the Negro croppers of Tallapoosa County.

Cliff James, the leader of the Sharecroppers Union at Notasulga (Reeltown), was turned over to the police by the heads of Tuskegee Institute, when he tried to secure medical attention at the Tuskegee hospital for his wounds, following the Battle of Reeltown in which Negro croppers heroically resisted the armed attacks of landlord-police lynch gangs.

Landowners, Gov't Responsible
White and Negro workers hold the rich landowners and their state and county authorities and reformist agents at Tuskegee Institute jointly responsible for the murder of James and Bentley. James was the second Negro cropper betrayed to the police by the Tuskegee Judas leaders. There is every indication that the Tuskegee heads participated with the landlords and police in every step of the murder drive to crush the resistance of the croppers to their starvation conditions and to break up the Sharecroppers Union, leader of that resistance.

Lynch Inciting Reformists
The Tuskegee officials not only aided the bosses in their drive on the Negro croppers and exploited farmers, but actually joined in the lynch-mob excitement against the Negro masses, as shown in the false information given the police by Dr. Eugene A. Dibble, in which he deliberately misquoted Cliff James as stating "he was sorry he didn't kill any of the offi-

which are now in different undertakers' establishments in Montgomery will be brought here. Tentative plans are to have the mass funeral next Monday, starting from the Pythian Hall.

Force Release of 4 Croppers
As a result of the tremendous protests by indignant workers, poor farmers and intellectuals, the authorities have been forced to release four of the arrested croppers held in Dadeville jail, Tallapoosa County. The four are L. Simpson, Wood, Greathouse and Bentley, who bears the same name as the murdered cropper leader, Milo Bentley.

Every effort is being made to mobilize ever broader masses for a still greater protest and defense movement to force the release of all the defendants who are in danger every movement they remain in jail, as shown by the murder of Cliff James and Milo Bentley. Mass organizations, unions and churches are being visited, and protest meetings called throughout the whole South. An intensive drive is being carried on to develop the protest movement on the broadest united front basis and with a permanent organizational character for the most effective support to the rapidly developing national revolutionary and class struggle in the "Black Belt."

James and Bentley were denied medical attention by the sheriffs. Following the death of James, Bentley was rushed to the Kilby prison hospital in a dying condition. He died two hours later.

With the death of James and Bentley, the total toll of landlord-police murders of Negroes in the present struggle is at least seven—not three as erroneously reported in today's Daily Worker. Several sheriffs admitted "seeing the bodies of 4 or 5 Negroes" in the fields after the Battle of Reeltown. In addition, two of the arrested Negroes are reported "missing."

Mighty Protest in Birmingham
Birmingham workers are rallying in a mighty protest against the landlord-police terror. A number of protest meetings already have been held here. The International Labor Defense and the Communist Party have issued thousands of leaflets, acquainting the workers with the real facts in the tremendous struggle in the "Black Belt." Sympathy with the struggles of the Tallapoosa croppers and exploited farmers is widespread throughout among the Southern toiling masses. From Andalusia, Ala., a white farmer sends the following message of solidarity:

"Rejoice to learn how game Tallapoosa farmers are. Our farmers are behind them."
Preparations are under way for a mass funeral in this city for Cliff James and Milo Bentley. The bodies

one of two Negro croppers turned over to the landlord-police lynch gangs by the reformist heads of Tuskegee Institute, where the croppers had sought refuge and treatment of their wounds in the Tuskegee hospital, affiliated with Tuskegee Institute.

Bring Bodies to Birmingham.
Arrangements are being made to bring the bodies here from Montgomery. A tremendous mass funeral is being prepared for next Monday from Pythian Hall. Members of many working class organizations and Negro lodges and churches will march behind the bodies of the murdered leaders. Many of these organizations already have adopted resolutions vigorously denouncing the murderous landlord-police terror in Tallapoosa County and the Judas role of the Tuskegee reformist leaders. The resolutions demand the punishment of the murderers, the immediate, unconditional release of all of the arrested croppers, and the right of the croppers and exploited farmers to organize against landlord robbery of their crops and expropriation of their mules and cows. The resolutions also demand the release of the nine Scottsboro boys, pointing out that the hideous frame-up of these innocent lads arises out of the same conditions of national oppression.

WORKERS' PROBE PROVES MURDER OF JAILED NEGRO CROPPERS BY ALA. BOSSES

**Witnesses Testify Authorities Denied Medical
Aid to Cliff James and Milo Bentley in
I. L. D. Investigation**

**Birmingham Workers Arranging Mass Funeral
for Murdered Cropper Leaders, Jailed
Croppers Denied Civil Rights**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 30.—A thorough investigation into the deaths of Cliff James and Milo Bentley, Negro cropper leaders, reveals that both died not from the wounds received in the Reeltown (Notasulga) Battle with armed landlord-police lynch gangs, but from criminal neglect and denial of medical aid by the authorities.

The investigation was conducted by representatives of the International Labor Defense in conjunction with a number of other workers. The bodies of the two murdered leaders show that the wounds had become infected as a result of neglect. Workers who visited the two croppers several days before their death testified that several of the wounds had not been dressed at all, and that even those wounds which had been dressed had not received further attention, the dressing being unchanged for days.

and economic robbery against which the croppers are struggling. **Lynch Press Now Silent.**

The southern lynch bosses present has suddenly clamped down on all news of the tremendous struggles in Tallapoosa County and on the murderous mass protests swelling from all parts of the country against the murderous armed attacks and wholesale arrests against the members of the Sharecroppers Union. This policy of suppression of the news follows the heels of a conference of Dr. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, with representatives of the white ruling-class press. In that conference, Moton suggested that all news of the landlord-police terror and the croppers resistance be played down. Dr. Moton feared that news of the tremendous struggle would make more difficult the role of the Negro reformist leaders of misleading the Negro masses and betraying their struggles against imperialist oppression and capitalist jim-crow reaction.

Deny Civil Rights.
Forced by this mass protest of indignant white and Negro workers and farmers to release four of the arrested croppers, the Alabama authorities continued today to deny the civil rights of those still held in the various county jails. State Attorney General Knight brusquely refused a request by the International Labor Defense attorneys, Frank B. Irwin and Irwin Schwab, for a private interview with the remaining defendants. At all previous interviews between the defendants and their attorneys, sheriffs and deputies have been present in open violation of the civil rights of defendants.

Hearing on the petition of the I. L. D. attorneys for writs of habeas corpus in the case of the remaining defendants has been set for January 5 before Judge Leon McCord. The I. L. D. attorneys will endeavor to force the sheriffs and deputies who participated in the outrageous attack on the croppers at Reeltown on Dec. 19 to testify on the causes of the struggle, and the subsequent brutal treatment of the arrested croppers which resulted in the death of Cliff James and Milo Bentley.

Southern workers and exploited farmers are following the developments with the closest interest and are especially interested in the growing evidence of militant support of the white and Negro workers in the north to the rising struggles in the South.

The murdered Cliff James was

Labor Conditions.

ALABAMA, IGNORANCE AND HATRED tions though sometimes their actions have caused impatience on the part of conscientious officers and the press.

With the smell of gunpowder hardly lifted from the swamps in Tallapoosa County, The Advertiser makes no attempt to name the underlying causes of the unfortunate shooting of peace officers and Negroes in that section this week.

This far from the scene and with investigations and arrests still being made, this paper would not attempt to pass judgment on the case at this time. No one can weigh the facts judicially yet.

Even those persons near the scene or those who actually have been connected with the affair have not had time to look deeply into the background of the causes. Time will bring out the truth, the whole truth of the rioting.

But whatever the causes, and no matter just what person, or group of persons are responsible for the gun play and wounding and killing of white men and negroes near Tallassee, Alabamians may prepare to find the name of this State blackened, grossly libeled by the drill sergeants of hatred.

Already the hasty executive secretaries of a half score of ever ready "protestor" organizations have sat in judgment of this case and returned a blanket indictment against the forces of law in Alabama.

Most of these paid professional secretaries have indicted the State of Alabama from "benches" far from the State. Most of them have never been in Alabama. Not many of them could be familiar with conditions here. Not one of them could know all the facts of the Tallapoosa County affair.

Yet they have sent sharply-worded telegrams to Alabama sheriffs and Gov. Miller containing unfounded charges and foolish demands.

Just how much of the trouble was agitated by these ill-informed and unscrupulous "organizers," is not known by The Advertiser. But reliable officers have reported that radical, inflammatory literature of such organizations has been found in the homes of misled negroes.

The Constitution of the United States guarantees these organizations certain rights. And it is the duty of every State officer to protect those rights. It is the duty of every Alabama newspaper to aid in protecting those rights.

It is believed that officers and newspapers in Alabama always have respected the Constitutional rights of these organiza-

But too often have these organizations over-stepped their guaranteed rights. Too often have they attempted to arouse hatred among a people who wish only for fair treatment and harmony.

Alabama can settle its difficulties without outside advice. Alabamians wish to guard the welfare of all its people. Most Alabama white men and most Alabama Negroes wish to be let alone by these frothy "defense" leagues.

Most people in this State, black and white, are too sensible for the radical groups to cause wide-spread trouble among Alabamians. There is no fear of that.

So far as Alabama is concerned this unfortunate Tallapoosa County trouble is over. Naturally there will be proper investigation to determine the causes. There will be trials. Citizens will not allow pass-

and officers and judges will keep the case alive in the minds of the ignorant people outside this State and outside of this country.

If they follow their own tracks in the Scottsboro case, these protestors may be expected to ignore truth in their haste to play on the sympathies of people who are led blindly into a sham fight for "justice, humanity and civilization."

These organizers care nothing for justice.

They care not for humanity. They exploit hatred among the ignorant to foster ideas that are political, not ideals of justice, as they claim.

Chattanooga, Tenn.
NEWS

DEC 21 1932

Negroes as Pawns

HUNDRED Negroes were engaged in a battle with a posse in Tallapoosa County, Ala., during the past two days. One Negro was killed, four deputies were wounded, and six alleged leaders of the so-called "Share Croppers' Union" were arrested.

The Share Croppers' Union, according to officers, was organized under the guidance of Communist agitators, who, in their speeches, made much of the Scottsboro case. What the Communists hope to

gain through agitation among the Negroes is cause for speculation. Certainly they have made no headway in Chattanooga, except among a small group of Negroes, and to have nullified the work of the agitators here. In various sections of the South, in recent years, racial troubles have been traced to misguided radicals who blindly damage their won cause in order to create excitement. The Elaine Negro riots in Arkansas some years ago were caused by agitators.

The agitators who work in the South among the Negroes have done more harm to the Communist cause than can be estimated. They seem bent on making the Negroes victims in their agitation, and sensible leaders of the Negro race ought to see this. The Negroes were used as pawns in the Elaine riots, at Scottsboro, and in the other riots backed by so-called Communists.

Two Arrested After Wide Search. Deputy sheriffs from three counties searched the hills yesterday and found the two Negroes they said were leaders. The Negroes, Ned Cobb and Boss Bentley, were wounded when they resisted arrest. Scores of Negroes fled to the hills to avoid the posse. Five Negroes were in jail in Dadeville, suspected of having participated in the fight. Cobb and Bentley, arrested in Macon county, were returned here for questioning. The deputies had gone to the cabin of Cliff James to attach his mule and cow to satisfy a court judgment. James resisted. The deputies retired for reinforcements and when they returned other Negroes had gathered and the fight followed.

Officials claimed to have found communistic literature in Negro cabins and charged that James, Cobb and Bentley were members of the Share Croppers' Union, a communistic organization.

Times Hard for Share Croppers. Recent unfortunate events in Tallapoosa County were of such a character as to be of vital interest to all Alabamians, whether white or black.

Share cropping is a common method of cultivation in the South. A land owner grants a farmer the use of land and in payment receives a share of his crop. In some instances the land owner provides tools, seed, live stock, and in most cases he finances the cropper's livelihood between crops through a commissary, where tenants obtainable supplies against their next crop.

Battle Called a Plot. The International Labor Defense charged today that the battle between deputies and Negroes near Tallassee, Ala., was deliberately inspired by officials to give them an excuse for breaking up the Share Croppers Union. The organization said it had information to show that seven Negroes had been killed. It predicted "wholesale lynchings."

N. Y. SUN

DEC 20 1932

NEGRO RED SLAIN

Shot When Deputies Sought to Seize Livestock.

TALLASSEE, Ala., Dec. 21 (U. P.).—Frightened Negroes were returning quietly to their cabins today after a series of skirmishes with deputy sheriffs in which from one to seven in the share croppers' revolt were reported killed. Two Negroes were arrested as communist leaders of the revolt against foreclosures and seizure of live stock. They were questioned today by the deputies.

Forty-eight hours after a gun battle between a sheriff's posse and a group of Negroes, there was no detailed, accurate account of either Negro killed in a gun battle precipitated by an attempt to attach a Negro farmer's livestock near here yesterday. Poses today hunted south central Alabama for more than a score of alleged Negro radicals accused of participation, while four Negro suspects were in jail.

Reports persisted that more than one Negro was slain, but these were difficult to confirm. Jim McMullen, Negro farm hand and a reputed leader of the disturbance, was found dead in the yard of Cliff James, the Negro farmer at whose home the shooting took place. The deputies wounded were Clifford S. Elder, D. A. Ware, J. H. Alford and J. M. Gantt. Officers searching the homes of James reported finding quantities of communistic literature and other documents relating to the Share Croppers Union.

A year ago last July Sheriff Young was wounded and a Negro slain in a similar uprising, following efforts to disperse a gathering of the Share Croppers Union near Camp Hill.

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MONTGOMERY, ALA.
ADVERTISER

DEC 23 1932

THE TALLAPOOSA MUDDLE

Recent unfortunate events in Tallapoosa County were of such a character as to be of vital interest to all Alabamians, whether white or black.

It would be instructive to know just how large a factor subversive political propaganda was in the disturbance.

It is known that there has been considerable radical agitation among the poorer class of Negroes in many parts of the State, and especially, it would appear, in Tallapoosa County.

But from the beginning Sheriff Kyle Young, of Tallapoosa, has seemed to take the attitude that this was more or less his private, personal problem in which the public could have no legitimate interest.

The Sheriff decided that he did not want any newspaper publicity about the affair, except what he authorized.

He has been uniformly curt and impolite to the newspapers of the State and their correspondents, and has refused to cooperate with them in any way in getting legitimate information to the people of his county and State.

In dealing with the rioters themselves this year as last, when there was another disturbance in Tallapoosa, Mr. Young seems to have acted with vigor and to have deported himself creditably. But he fell into the error of assuming that re-

porters were as dangerous to the public peace as rioters.

Unfortunately Mr. Young seems to have no grasp of the larger values involved in disturbances of this kind. He is unable to see that there is a very definite public interest involved and that full information, unbiased and uncolored, should be given the public through the accepted mediums.

Presumably Sheriff Young has nothing in his recent record to hide, yet he acted toward the press as if he did.

As matters stand the public has only the side of the white officers. It would be interesting to know the side of the men who were in the Jeans house when the shooting occurred.

But it would offend Sheriff Young's sense of propriety and good taste to permit any of his captives to be interviewed.

Apparently it would also offend Sheriff Young's sense of propriety and good taste to publish the names and the number of the dead, to say nothing of the wounded. If he has this information—and it is his duty to have it—he should give it out.

Perhaps Governor Miller could prevail on the Sheriff of Tallapoosa County to take the public into his confidence as to what has occurred.

Further inquiry into the Tallapoosa situation undoubtedly is in order.

The public interest throughout Alabama is too deeply involved in situations of this kind, in times like these especially, for the truth to be withheld in any county by an arrogant official who has no adequate appreciation of his responsibility regarding public information and State policy.

Sheriff Young is no doubt a brave and honest officer, but a peace officer should also have wisdom and judgment.

Negroes as Pawns

A HUNDRED Negroes were engaged in a battle with a posse in Tallapoosa County, Ala., during the past two days. One Negro was killed, four deputies were wounded, and six alleged leaders of the so-called "Share Croppers' Union" were arrested.

The Share Croppers' Union, according to officers, was organized under the guidance of Communist agitators, who, in their speeches, made much of the Scottsboro case.

What the Communists hope to gain through agitation among the Negroes is cause for speculation. Certainly they have made no headway in Chattanooga, except among a small group of Negroes, and sensible leaders of the Negro race

have nullified the work of the agitators here. In various sections of the South, in recent years, racial troubles have been traced to misguided radicals who blindly damage their won cause in order to create excitement. The Elaine Negro riots in Arkansas some years ago were caused by agitators.

The agitators who work in the South among the Negroes have done more harm to the Communist cause than can be estimated. They seem bent on making the Negroes victims in their agitation, and sensible leaders of the Negro race ought to see this. The Negroes were used as pawns in the Elaine riots, at Scottsboro, and in the other riots backed by so-called Communists.

Letters To The Editor

Please be brief. We reserve the right to cut letters more than 300 words long.

STATEMENT FROM COMMITTEE THAT INTERVIEWED GOV. MILLER

Editor The Advertiser:

A committee composed of three people, Mrs. W. Nash Read and Mrs. Mary Crank Speed and Rabbi Benjamin Goldstein, called upon Gov. Miller today, Dec. 23, in reference to the disturbances which have taken place in Tallapoosa County. The committee represented no organizations but spoke merely as citizens interested in justice. They called the attention of the Governor to the fact that the information given to the public was garbled and admittedly suppressed and suggested that in the light of contradictory statements relative to the number killed and arrested and the whereabouts of the prisoners, that an official investigation should take place. It was stated that the public was very much interested and concerned and that an investigation of actual conditions in that part of Alabama would be very helpful. The Governor declared that no such investigation was necessary.

The committee called the Governor's attention to the report given by Mr. Frank B. Irwin, of Birmingham, attorney for the arrested men, who visited all of the county seats of the counties involved to file his appearance for the defendants and to prepare their defense yesterday. The attorney stated that in no case was he allowed to see the men except in the presence of the Sheriff, and that in Tuskegee, where it is reported Judson Simpson and Milo Bentley both lie seriously wounded in jail, Sheriff Riley refused to allow the attorney to see the men at all. The Governor stated that no sheriff has the right to prevent an attorney from conferring privately with his clients and in case of the denial of such privilege the attorney could appeal for a court order restraining the sheriff from interfering. This court order would have to be executed by the sheriff himself.

It was then suggested by the committee that the situation was a grievous one; that the Negroes were long subject to unfair and unjust exploitation by the land owners; that this was not a racial but an economic situation affecting both white and colored farmers in that locality and elsewhere; and that conditions of

starvation and misery existed which ought to be relieved. They stated that seizures of property often resulted from unscrupulous and oftentimes unfair bookkeeping which took advantage of the ignorance of the Negro.

The committee expressed their fear that the present difficulty was part of a movement to keep the farmers from organizing to prevent such exploitation and especially directed to prevent the negroes from organizing with the white farmers. In the light of these facts it was suggested that an investigation was necessary to guarantee the farmers their civil rights.

The Governor, though admitting the right of the farmers to organize, refused to order an official investigation, replying that the committee could go and investigate themselves. A member of the committee then asked the Governor for a letter to the sheriffs permitting such an investigation and giving it his approval. The letter was refused. The most that he would do was to assure them that if they got into any difficulty they should telephone to him for assistance.

The committee then withdrew and is now considering a citizens' investigation of conditions in Tallapoosa County.

Montgomery, Ala.

MRS. NASH READ.

ANNISTON, ALA.

STAR

ALABAMA INDICTED BY OUTSIDE WORLD

The Montgomery Advertiser deplores the fact that outside forces are ever ready to seize some opportunity to cast aspersions on the name of Alabama, the comment being inspired by the recent disturbances in Tallapoosa County. The Advertiser says:

"With the smell of gunpowder hardly lifted from the swamps in Tallapoosa County, The Advertiser makes no attempt to name the underlying cause of the unfortunate shooting of peace officers and negroes in that section this week.

"This far from the scene and with investigations and arrests still being made, this paper would not attempt to pass judgment on the case at this time. No one can weigh the facts judicially yet.

"Even those persons near the scene or those who actually have been connected with the affair have not had time to look deeply into the background of the causes. Time will bring out the truth, the whole truth of the rioting.

"But whatever the causes, and no matter just what person, or group of persons are responsible for the gun play and the wounding and killing of white men and negroes near Tallassee, Alabamians may prepare to find the name of this state blackened, grossly libeled by the drill sergeants of hatred.

"Already the hasty executive secretaries of a half score of ever ready 'protester' organizations have sat in judgment of this case and returned a blanket indictment against the forces of law in Alabama.

"Most of these paid professional secretaries have indicted the State of Alabama from 'benches' far from the state. Most of them have never been in

Alabama. Not many of them could be familiar with conditions here. Not one of them could know all the facts of the Tallapoosa County affair.

"Yet they have sent sharply-worded telegrams to Alabama sheriffs and Governor Miller containing unfounded charges and foolish demands.

"Just how much of the trouble was agitated by these ill-informed and unscrupulous 'organizers,' is not known by The Advertiser. But reliable officers have reported that radical, inflammatory literature of such organizations has been found in the homes of misled negroes.

"Alabama can settle its difficulties without outside advice. Alabamians wish to guard the welfare of all its people. Most Alabama white men and most Alabama negroes wish to be let alone by these frothy 'defense' leagues.

"Most people in this state, black and white, are too sensible for the radical groups to cause widespread trouble among Alabamians. There is no fear of that.

"So far as Alabama is concerned this unfortunate Tallapoosa County trouble is over. Naturally there will be proper investigation to determine the causes. There will be trials. Citizens will not allow passion to rise over the incident.

"But the violent-tempered individuals who send harsh telegrams to Governors and officers and judges will keep the case alive in the minds of the ignorant people outside this state and outside of this country.

"If they follow their own tracks in the Scottsboro case, these protesters may be expected to ignore truth in their haste to play on the sympathies of people who are led blindly into a sham fight for 'justice, humanity and civilization.'

"These organizers care nothing for justice.

"They care not for humanity.

"They exploit hatred among the ignorant to foster ideas that are political, not ideals of justice, as they claim."

Agriculture-1932

Alabama

Labor Conditions

CLIFF JAMES DEAD OF INFECTED WOUNDS; DENIED MEDICAL AID

He Was Forced to Lie on Cold Cell Floor; Was Turned in by Reformist Officials of Tuskegee

Montgomery Sheriff Won't Let I.L.D. Attorneys Visit Dying Men in County Jail

BULLETIN

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 27.—Cliff James, Negro cropper leader, died today in the Montgomery County Jail after being refused medical attention for the wounds received in the battle at Notasulga when 150 croppers heroically defended themselves against the landlord-police lynch gangs. James was turned over to the police by Tuskegee Institute officials when he sought medical aid at the Tuskegee hospital. His death is an out and out murder carried out jointly by the landlords and their police and the Negro reformist heads of Tuskegee Institute, which is under the control of Rockefeller.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 27.—Held incommunicado in the Montgomery County jail and denied medical aid Clifford James and Milo Bentley, two of the croppers wounded by landlord-police lynch gangs in the battle on Dec. 19 at Notasulga, are dying of infected wounds.

Clifford James is one of the Negro croppers turned over to Tuskegee's posses by officials when they sought medical attention at the Tuskegee Institute hospital. With Bentley, he has been forced to lie on the cold floor of a cell and denied medical care and is now in a delirious state.

The authorities have refused to send them to a private hospital on the pretext that lynch threats have been made against them. This, despite the fact that the only lynch threats have been made by the sheriffs and deputies, and the admission in the boss press of the growing sympathy among the poor white croppers and masses with the struggles of the Negro croppers against starvation, robbery of their crops and expropriation of their mules and cows for "debts" to the landlords.

The two dying croppers and three other croppers held in the Montgomery county jail have also been refused permission to confer with their attorneys. Deputy Sheriff Scoggins yesterday denied the I. L. D. attorneys the right to visit the men.

All workers and their organizations, and all other elements opposed to lynching and the brutal national oppression of the Negro people, are urged to rush protests to Sheriff Scoggins of Montgomery Ala., demanding medical care for the wounded croppers, their right to see their attorneys and immediate and unconditional release of the 13 or more jailed croppers.

The Montgomery Journal yesterday printed the full statement of the Montgomery liberal committee which visited Gov. Miller in behalf of the imprisoned croppers and to protest against the bloody landlord-police terror now raging throughout Tallapoosa and adjoining communities. The statement created a sensation. The liberal committee is now organizing a citizens' investigation of the bloody events in Tallapoosa

County.

Indicative of the growing solidarity between white and Negro croppers against landlord robbery and terror, there is intense discussion throughout Alabama on the issue involved in the Notasulga struggle of the right of self-defense against forced collection of debts piled up on the croppers by the crooked book-keeping of the landlords.

5 ALA. CROPPERS AND 2 WORKERS ON TRIAL THIS WEEK

Workers Must Protest Against Frame-Ups of Fighters

NEGRO WOMEN KILLED Murdered in Cold Blood by Ala. Cops

BULLETIN

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 10.—Landlords of Tallapoosa County, Ala., are threatening the lives of the International Labor Defense attorneys, Frank B. Irwin and Charles Schwab, if they appear tomorrow to defend the five Negro croppers still held in jail. The I. L. D. attorneys have defied the landlords' lynch threats and are now on their way to Dadeville. The I. L. D. and the Sharecroppers' Union are rallying white and Negro workers and sharecroppers to their defense. Latest reports from Tallapoosa County tell of widespread landlord-police terror against the croppers, disarming and beating of Negro croppers and exploited farmers.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 10.—Trials of seven Negro croppers still held in Dadeville jail, Tallapoosa County, Ala., have been set for tomorrow. They are charged with "assault to murder" in connection with the heroic defense of Negro croppers against the murderous attacks by landlord-police lynch gangs which resulted in the Battle of Reeltown, the wounding of four deputies and the murder of at least three croppers. Mass pressure has forced the release of seven other croppers, including three who were held in the same jail with the two murdered cropper leaders, Milo Bentley and Cliff James, the latter betrayed into the hands of

the police by the reformist heads of Tuskegee Institute.

Solicitor Seeks Postponement

Sam W. Oliver, solicitor of Tallapoosa County, who is prosecuting the croppers, is trying to obtain postponement of the trial on the pretext of seeking to avoid "further trouble. The postponement move is in reality aimed to disarm the vigilance of white and Negro workers and share croppers are planning to pack the courtroom tomorrow. Among the seven prisoners is Judson Simpson, who is seriously wounded and was first reported killed in the Battle of Reeltown.

Workers' organizations and all persons opposed to lynchings and organized massacres of Negroes should wire protests to Judge Oliver, Dadeville, Ala., demanding immediate unconditional release for the share croppers.

LYNCH PRESS IN PRAISE OF 'JUDAS'

"Proud of Reformist Negro Leaders"

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 27.—The Southern lynch bosses and their press are unanimous in heaping praise upon the Judge heads of Tuskegee Institute for their vicious attacks on the struggles of the Negro croppers in Tallapoosa County and the turning over to the police of Cliff James and another wounded cropper who sought medical aid at the Tuskegee Hospital.

The Montgomery Advertiser mounted the following headline a few days ago:

Leader In Negro
Uprising Jailed
Cliff James Handed Over
To Sheriff By Officials
Of Tuskegee Institute

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Dec. 22.—(Special)—Cliff James, the negro at whose home the Tallapoosa County disorder of last Monday originated, is being held in the Macon County jail whence he was brought last night by officials of Tuskegee Institute. Tonight he expressed

County and their Sharecroppers Union, advanced the traitorous action of the Tuskegee officials as an "example" to other Negro leaders, declaring:

"We are proud that we have the same intelligent leadership here in Montgomery that is exemplified at Tuskegee Institute . . ."

The Memphis (Tennessee) Appeal called for an intensified attack on the efforts of Negro croppers to organize to better their conditions and for a united front of Negro leaders with the white ruling class authorities to combat the rising struggles of the Negro toilers.

It said:

"Race leaders among Negroes have one of the greatest opportunities to do good for their people if they choose to recognize it."

"There is no secret that Communist agents are making a mighty effort to convert Negroes to radicalism. It is going to take leadership of the most intelligent and courageous type from Negro leaders and from white authorities to counteract it."

(It is to be noted that even in the moment of its appeal to the Negro reformist leaders, the boss paper can not conceal its chauvinist hatred of Negroes, but continues the lynch-boss custom of using Negro without a capital N.)

The boss paper then calls for the suppression by the Alabama authorities of the Communist Party:

"Alabama authorities blame Communist propaganda among ignorant negroes as the underlying cause of the tragedy. They are probably correct. If they are, then they themselves are to blame for permitting Communistic activities in the community."

Sheriff Golden of Montgomery County, one of the leaders in the outrageous landlord-police attacks on the Negro croppers of Tallapoosa

Last Words of Murdered Cropper

Denounced the Tuskegee Leaders

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 28.—The death of Cliff James, murdered Negro cropper leader, in Montgomery County jail followed closely on the heels of threats of lynching him made by the sheriff's deputies.

James' betrayal to the police by the reformist heads of Tuskegee Institute was accompanied by a vicious lynch-incitement statement by Dr. Eugene A. Dibble, Negro physician in charge of Tuskegee hospital where James had gone for treatment of his wounds received in the battle of Notasulga (Reeltown) when armed posses attacked the croppers and attempted to expropriate James' mule and cow. In that statement, Dr. Dibble told the police that James had declared to him that "he was sorry he didn't kill any of the officers."

Interview with James

A few days before his death, the Montgomery Advertiser published an interview with James in which he denounced the reformist heads of Tuskegee and vigorously repudiated the statement attributed to him by these assistant hangmen of the Alabama landlords. The Advertiser's story stated:

"His (James) statement, too, was at variance with one he was reported to have made to Dr. Eugene A. Dibble, Negro physician in charge of the Tuskegee hospital. It was reported that he told Dr. Dibble he had remained in his home to fight 'and that he would have been fighting yet if his crowd hadn't run away on him.' He is also reported to have told the physician that 'he was sorry he didn't kill any of the officers.'"

The Advertiser further quoted James, as follows:

"James said the trouble was about some money he owed W. S. Parker, Notasulga merchant, on a 77-acre farm he had bought in 1924 for \$1,600. He said he owed \$950 on the farm and had not been able to pay anything this year.

"Have To Sell It"

"Mr. Parker not long ago came to me and said: 'Cliff, if you can't pay for your place I'll have to sell it,' the Negro said.

"I said, 'Mr. Parker that will be tough on us.' I asked him to just give a little time to raise something and buck up so I could have a showing.

"He told me he'd give me this year's interest on the place if I'd make a note for \$80 and that if I would agree to pay him the \$80 could go on and owe him another year I told him I didn't have \$80 and he

told me to make him a note for it I told him I would study on it.

"Monday Mr. Elder came. He said he had an attachment on my two mules and two cows.

"I told Mr. Elder that it looked like Mr. Parker ain't doing what he said, and that Mr. Parker had said he would allow me a showing.

"Mr. Elder said he didn't have nothing to do with that, that he had to carry out the law. Mr. Elder said 'Cliff I'm trying to help you!'

"I said: 'Mr. Elder do you think it will help me to take my cows so my family can't have any milk?'

"I told Mr. Elder, 'you're the law but I won't agree for you to get them but to go ahead and get them.'

"About that time Ned Cobb, he come up. He said, 'Mr. Elder please don't take 'em.'

"Mr. Elder, he said, 'Boys I'll tell you what I'm going to do I'm going back and get some more men and come back and kill you all in a pile.'

James then described how Elder returned with an armed posse which immediately opened fire on the croppers and rushed the cabin.

ALABAMA BOSSES KILL

ANOTHER OF JAILED NEGRO CROPPER LEADERS

Milo Bentley Dies Soon After Cliff James Who Was Handed Over to Murderers by Negro Reformists

Plan Mass Funeral; Masses Must Protest Murders; Authorities, Negro Reformist Heads Responsible

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 28.—Murdered by the landlords and their police, Milo Bentley, a Negro cropper leader, died this morning in jail. His death occurred ten and a half hours after that of Cliff James, leader of the croppers in their heroic resistance to the attacks of armed landlord-police lynch gangs at

Notasulga (Reeltown) on Dec. 19, and handed over to the police by treacherous officials of Tuskegee Institute, the famous college for Negro students which has fallen under control of the Rockefeller interests.

Another Negro farmer was murdered outright at the scene of the shooting, so that the bloody total of three murders is made by the deaths of Bentley and James, who were wounded by the lynch gang and then thrown into prison.

Both Croppers Murdered.

There is no question that both of the cropper leaders have been murdered. Cliff James' body is covered with bruises. James was shot twice in the back by the sheriff's posse. His body shows no bullet wound in the front. Bentley's body has at least seven bullet wounds in the head, back, and the arms. The wounds on both bodies are highly infected.

It is obvious that wounds had not been dressed for several days. Some of the wounds were not dressed at all and are completely uncovered and exposed.

That it was the intention of the authorities to murder the two sharecropper leaders was evident from the time of their arrest. Both were taken in an ordinary automobile from Tuskegee jail to the Montgomery County jail, quite evidently to die.

was removed to the Kilby Prison hospital at 12:30. He died two hours later.

ILD. Active in Case

The International Labor Defense attorneys, Frank B. Irwin of Birmingham, and Irving Schwab of New York City, today secured writs of habeas corpus for the five croppers held incommunicado in the Montgomery County jail.

The writs are returnable on Jan. 5, before Judge Leon McCord, circuit county judge. The I.L.D. attorneys will then attempt to force the sheriff deputies and county doctors to explain the cause of the deaths of the two murdered cropper leaders. They will also demand an order from the judge permitting attorneys to visit and confer privately with the three defendants remaining in Montgomery County jail: Jug Moss, Thomas Moss and Ivy Moss.

Plan Mass Funeral

A mass funeral is planned for the two murdered cropper leaders. The body of James is at the H. A. Lovelless undertakers establishment; that of Bentley is at the Ross Clayton Funeral House, both in Montgomery. New sections of the white toiling masses are rallying to the defense of the Negro croppers as mass anger mounts throughout the South against these latest murders by the rich landowners and their police. Protests are pouring in from all parts of the country on Gov. B. M. Miller, himself a rich landowner in the "Black Belt," where he owns 50,000 acres. Workers and their organizations and all sympathetic elements are urged to continue and intensify the protest campaign and defense movement for the arrested sharecroppers and the nine innocent Scottsboro boys facing legal lynching in the same state of Alabama.

A SHARE CROPPER'S LIFE: SWINDLED, BEATEN UNCONSCIOUS, FRAMED ON RAPE CHARGE, SHOT DEAD

ADEL COUNTY, Ga.—Archer Burnett, a Negro share-cropper, lived on a rich land-owner's place here. The first of the year, the landowner told Burnett: Now you start turning your land that you are going to work this year. By the first of April he had all his land turned that he was going to plant.

One morning the landowner went down to the sharecropper's shack and told him: I think you should plant forty acres. You would make more for yourself and your family. The sharecropper said: Who is going to help me work all of this land, there is nobody but me and my wife and we can't work all of that land. I will plant only 25 acres.

The landlord said to the croppers' wife: "Now, me and your husband was talking about planting 40 acres this year." She said, no, we can work 25 acres, we will do good to work that much. What do you think about it, Archer? He said: I think we should work 15 acres in cotton, 10 in corn, that is enough.

Bills—For What?

He said all right, suit yourself. I tell you what I want you to do. You come up to my house and let's figure out how much fertilizer you are going to use this year. I've got the bills down there. The share-cropper asked what the bills are for. The landlord said: They are for fertilizer that I ordered for you to use this year. Why I haven't told you to order and fertilizer for me. The landlord said: You don't have to tell me what not to do. I ordered it and now you are going to pay for it. The share-cropper said: I didn't order it and I will not pay for it. I haven't got the money. The landowner said: You have strength plenty of it. Now the amount of money you've got to pay is \$200, and the best way for you to pay this money is to start working your crop and by the time you get it gathered you can pay me what you owe me. The share-cropper said: I don't owe you anything. The landlord said: You goddamn son of a bitch, don't dispute my word. You owe me \$200 for that fertilizer I am ordering, and you are going to pay for it right here on my place or I will have you put on the chain gang. The share-cropper said: I am willing to go to the chain gang if that will pay the debt that you claim I owe. The landlord said: Yes it will pay the debt that

you owe me. Now what would you rather do. The sharecropper said: I would rather go on the road.

The landlord called up the sheriff and he came down to the plantation. After he heard the landlord's story, they went to the shack. The landlord called Archer. He was a little slow about coming. Finally he came to the door. The landlord said: What was wrong with you, that you couldn't come when I called you. The

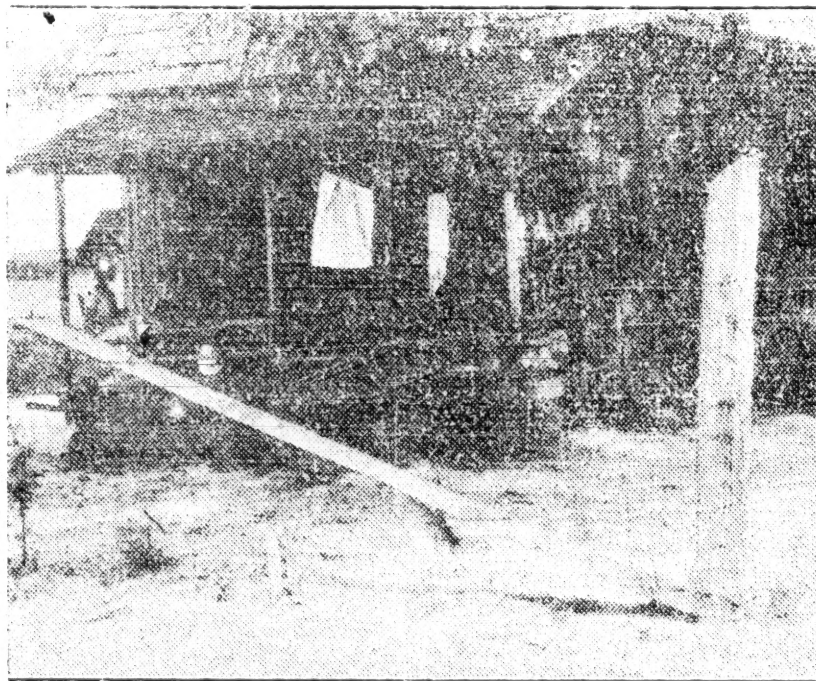
cropper said: I was eating my dinner. The landlord said: You're a damn liar, you were trying to run off, weren't you? The cropper said: No, no, sir. I was eating my dinner. The landlord said, so you call me a liar, eh, I'm going to beat hell out of you.

The Murder of A Cropper.

The next morning at 6 a. m. he went up to the house. The landlord said: Archer, you know them fence partitions what me and you made the other day. You know where they are. Go and get them. So when the Negro started to go for the partitions the landlord's wife hollered: rape. The landlord went running to the house and got his gun and said, stop there, nigger, what the hell are you doing. Archer said, I am looking for the partitions. The landlord said, you are a damn black liar. You are trying to rape my wife. She said, he winked his eyes at her. The landlord shot the share-cropper three times with a shot gun and killed him.

Fellow workers, in the same way this sharecropper was killed, there are thousands of farmers doing the same thing. The only way this can be stopped is by organizing both Negro and white organized together, joining the Sharecroppers Union and the Communist Party and the Young Communist League in your neighborhood.

An "American" Home



"THE AMERICAN STANDARD OF LIVING."—Home of a Negro share-cropper in southern Georgia. Thousands of human beings live in these leaky, clapboard huts.

He got a hoe handle and said: Hold him, sheriff, while I teach him to talk to a white man. I'll show him how to stay in his place. The sheriff grabbed the share-cropper and tied him and held his gun on him while the landlord beat him. He pleaded but the landlord said, shut up your damn mouth.

The croppers' wife came out and pleaded too. The sheriff said, shut up that damn hollering. If you don't we will get you. The landlord beat that cropper for 30 minutes and then he told the sheriff to leave him alone. He was beaten unconscious. He lay on the ground, with the blood coming out of his nose and side.

little better than slaves of the white plantation owners. (Copyright by John L. Spivak, author of "Georgia Nigger.")

After he gained strength, the landlord said to him, now Archer, are you willing to go to the road or are you willing to work a crop. Let me know now, the sheriff is here. If you don't, the sheriff will be too glad to carry you back to town with him. The sheriff said, yes, let me know so I won't have to come back to get you.

Archer said, yes sir, I am willing to work it off.

The landowner told the cropper to come up to his house the next day. He had already been on this landlord's place for one year and 6 months.

HUNT NEGRO CROPPERS IN ALA. AS TERROR DRIVE IS PUSHED BY THE BOSSES

12-24-33
New York, N. Y.
Southern Press Forced to Admit Failure of
Lynch Law Incitement Among Tallapoosa
White Croppers Who Defended Negroes

Negro Reformists Support Landlord-Police
Terror as White and Negro Toilers Raise
Mighty Protest Throughout Country

BULLETIN.

BIRMINGHAM, Dec. 23.—Clifford James, local leader of the Sharecroppers Union at Notasulga, Tallapoosa County, surrendered today after he was surrounded by armed deputies. James was one of the Negro croppers wounded in Monday's battle when landlord-police lynch gangs attacked the croppers and attempted to expropriate James' mule and cow.

Following James' arrest, one of the deputies, Elder, threatened to kill all Negro croppers when the deputies return with the attachment on James' property.

Alice Burke, wife of Donald Burke, southern organizer of the International Labor Defense, was arrested last night at a protest meeting in the home of a white worker at East Lake, Ala. Four policemen broke in on the meeting with drawn guns. She is being held incommunicado. All workers organizations and sympathizers are urged to rush protest telegrams to City Commissioner Jones of Birmingham.

BIRMINGHAM, Dec. 23.—The Birmingham Post, in a leading editorial yesterday, was forced to take cognizance of the splendid solidarity of white and Negro croppers which beat back the first wave of the landlord-police terror in Tallapoosa County, Ala. The editorial is entitled "No Race Riot" and states in part:

"The relatively small extent to which race prejudice factored impressed newspapermen most deeply, many farmers ground down by the same relentless economic pressure which Negro suffers expressed sympathy with the Negroes' desperate plight."

Thus, after three days of screaming "race riot" headlines aimed at stirring lynch sentiment, the Southern press is forced to admit both the economic background of the tremendous struggles taking place in Tallapoosa County and the solidarity of the local white croppers with the Negro croppers who heroically defended themselves against the armed attacks of the landlord-police lynch gangs.

Mass Protest Grows

The mass protest against the terror is growing throughout Birmingham and the South. Many meetings of white and Negro workers are being held in this and other cities.

Negro and white organizations are responding to the call for militant protest against the murderous attacks on the Negro croppers and for the release of the arrested leaders of the Sharecroppers Union. The International Labor Defense has called a protest mass meeting for Monday, Jan. 2, at 2 p.m., at Old Pythian Hall, 1524 1/2 Second Avenue, North Birmingham.

Attack Leaders

The boss press admits that Gov. Miller of Alabama is alarmed by the flood of protest telegrams and resolutions which are pouring in on him from all parts of the country.

So great is the anger of the masses here that the local press has been forced to print over a dozen of the protest telegrams and resolutions. At the same time the boss press seeks to behead the mass protest movements with a vicious tirade against the Communist Party, which the bosses recognize as the leading force in uniting white and Negro toilers for joint struggle against starvation and terror.

Behind this attack on the Communist Party, the Alabama lynch bosses have united the white and Negro reformists through the Alabama Commission on Inter-racial Relations, a boss-sponsored organization of white bosses and Negro reformist leaders. Two days ago this bunch issued a statement attacking the struggles of the Negro croppers and calling on the Negro reformists to combat the rising resistance of the Negroes to landlord robbery and terror.

Lynch Press Praises Reformists

Within 24 hours, the reformist heads of Tuskegee Institute responded to this call of their masters, siding with the landlords in the lynch terror campaign against the Negro croppers, and urging the Negro masses to remain "peaceful" in the face of the murderous landlord-police attacks. This traitorous action of the Tuskegee reformists has won great praise from the very newspapers which have been busily attempting to whip up a lynch spirit against the Negroes. These same papers led the hue and cry for the lives of the innocent Scottsboro boys and likewise praised William Pickens and other leaders of the N. A. A. C. P. for their attacks on the Scottsboro defense organized by the International Labor Defense.

I. L. D. attorneys arrived yesterday at Dadeville, Ala., to conduct the defense of the 12 arrested cropper leaders.

I. L. D. Campaign in South

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 23.—The Southern District of the International Labor Defense has issued an urgent appeal for funds for the defense of the Negro croppers arrested in the struggle in Tallapoosa County and to further its work of mobilizing white and Negro workers of the South against the bloody terror launched by the Alabama landlords and their police against the Negroes. Funds may be sent to the National Office of the I. L. D., 80 East 11th Street, for remittance to the Southern District.

40 Meets in Birmingham

Neighborhood protest meetings on the broadest united front basis have been called by the I. L. D. here. Forty meetings are planned in Birmingham alone, with meetings in Atlanta, New Orleans and other southern cities. Mass organizations, churches, and liberals are being visited with resolutions and appeals for funds. The I. L. D. has already issued 5,000 leaflets calling on white and Negro workers to rally to the defense of the croppers and plans to issue 50,000 more immediately. Many of these leaflets are being distributed in Tallapoosa and adjoining counties in the heart of the struggle.

A delegation of three left here two days ago for Montgomery to demand the release of the 12 arrested cropper leaders and organize their defense.

Irving Schwab and General George W. Chamlee, I. L. D. attorneys, are now in Montgomery working on the Scottsboro case and the defense of the croppers.

The Communist Party district is supporting with strenuous activities the defense moves and will be issuing 100,000 leaflets shortly for distribution all over the South.

Agriculture - 1932

Alabama

Condition of.

WHY THE ALABAMA FARMER IS POOR

In one of its interesting studies of the various economic aspects of life in Alabama, the Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, gives a terse explanation of one reason, if not the chief reason, why the Alabama farmer is poor.

"There is," says the bulletin issued by the Chamber of Commerce, "no way to really recognize the desperate need of livestock on the Alabama farms without first analyzing the poverty of our farms without livestock."

The counties of Autauga, Butler, Coosa, Covington, Crenshaw, Dale, Dallas, Macon, Pike and Tallapoosa have combined but 107,109 head of cattle. These same counties have but 188,674 head of hogs.

What conclusions are we to draw from this? Simply that "if there were but one cow to every 20 acres, there would be added wealth to these counties amounting to \$2,485,220." This would equal an annual payroll of 4,142 cotton mill operatives at \$600 a year; "or if there were one cow to every ten acres, it would be equal to the annual payroll of 8,284 cotton mill operatives."

If the same ten counties had only one 200-pound hog to every ten acres, "this would add \$2,749,460 to the wealth of these counties each year, which would be equal to the wages made by 4,849 cotton mill operatives."

The bulletin singles out one poor county to illustrate what "could be done by even a reasonable use of livestock and poultry on the farm."

Coosa has 419,200 acres. "It takes 55 1-2 acres to produce one egg per day in Coosa," and 150 acres to produce one hog per year. It takes 65 acres "to produce one scrub cow per year." If Coosa were to produce only one cow to every 20 acres, one hog to every 20 acres and one egg per day every 5 acres, "there would be no poverty in Coosa County."

The bulletin concludes with this comment:

Surely no county is too poor to do this little to help itself, and yet the cold facts show why Coosa is poor. There are many counties in New England, the Central West, and elsewhere where the soil and the climate are less inviting than in Coosa, but these counties are not so poor. The above facts are so simple that the business men of Alabama have too long overlooked the tragedy of the truth.

Surely Alabama needs a definite, continuing, agricultural program of interest to the farmer, the merchant, the banker, and the manufacturer.

Analyze your county and you will find Coosa is not the only poor Alabama county.

A careful economic survey of each county, made by experienced men, would, if taken up by the leaders of that county and aggressively and honestly exploited year after year, end in a vast improvement in conditions.

People can always better afford to be frank about their failings and shortcomings than to deny them or ignore them. That leader who talks most frankly to his neighbors about their common problems is a better patriot than the talker who strives only to please when he talks. Most communities—most individuals, for that matter—are flattered too much. They hear more praise of themselves than is good for them.

It is essential to the well-being of any community—or individual—that an early understanding be reached about the primary facts concerning that community or individual. If the facts are unfavorable, the sooner they are frankly recognized the better for all concerned.

The fact is that the potentialities of Alabama are quite as great as its past achievements.

We have not by any means made the most of our soil.

We have let it wash away or die through neglect, and we have not done what we might have done to strengthen it by systematic care.

We have not yet mastered the art of getting the highest possible yield per unit of energy.

We have worked too hard for the cotton that we grew, and for the grain we grew.

That is to say, most of us have had these shortcomings. In consequence of it all of us have had to pay dearly.

Let us resolve henceforth to do better—to do our best with what we have.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
ADVERTISER

MAR 3 1932

Negro Tenant Farmers

"If the farmers of Autauga County really intend to diversify they should have 400 acres in strawberries, increase their oats, wheat, hairy vetch and Austrian peas, hogs, cattle, poultry,

sweet potato crops at least 100 per cent. They should increase their vegetable and fruit crops and preserve enough for their home consumption and have some to sell. The farmers should have something to sell every month in the year. In the Black Belt the negroes should change their old way of working six months in the year and work 12 months. They should cease to look to the land owners for everything they eat and wear and depend on themselves."—Prattville Progress.

This is all mighty good advice. It should not fall on barren ground. History, it is said, does not double back, but always cuts a new channel. It is high time that a new channel be cut by our negro farmers, whether tenants or owners of their little places. The very discreditable showing made by Dallas and other Alabama counties in diversified farming is due largely to the backwardness of the negro farmer. Many do not possess a cow or a brood sow or a chicken. They have no gardens and few if any hogs to kill at the end of the year. It is true that a good deal of headway is being made in curing the deficiencies of negro farming and that the showing in diversification is less depressing than it was a decade ago, but much ground remains yet to be covered before any large amount of pride can be felt for the negro's achievements on the farm.

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Court Of Appeals Reversed On Cotton 'Wager' Decision

Montgomery Ala.
Supreme Tribunal Holds
Crop Underwriting
Pact Valid

An "agreement" between W. H. Knox and Jim Grooms whereby Grooms guaranteed that Knox would harvest 20 bales of lint cotton averaging 500 pounds to a bale from his farm in Limestone County in the Fall of 1929, Grooms to get all over 20 bales produced, was in the nature of an insurance contract and is valid, the Supreme Court of Alabama held yesterday, reversing the decision of the Alabama Court of Appeals that the "agreement" was a "bet" or "wager" and was void.

The agreement entered into was drawn up in written form and duly signed by both parties following a discussion which took place in a country store as to the amount of cotton that would be made that season on Knox's farm. When the crop was gathered, it was found that the Knox farm had produced 25 bales of cotton. Thereafter, Grooms went to the Knox place and hauled away the extra five bales, while Knox was absent. He testified Knox told that if boll weevils eat a portion of the crop no great loss will be incurred.

When sued for recovery of the five bales, Grooms produced the agreement. The trial court held that this was not for poisoning weevils with cotton at pre-vailing low prices. Having planted and worked their crops, cotton growers seem to be satisfied to let nature handle the situation after the last cultivation. A few, however, will use poison.

Grooms then applied to the Supreme Court for review of the case and issuance of a writ of certiorari to the Court of Appeals, which was granted yesterday.

In opinion of the Supreme Court, written by Justice A. B. Foster, the point is made that the cotton crop concerned was, at the time the agreement was made, still subject to weather and other conditions which could depreciate the amount of the yield, so that the owner of the crop sustained a risk of loss in respect to the yield. "Insurance against fire or other hazards is not a wager," the opinion states, "when the insured owns an insurable interest which is subject to risk of such hazard, but when he owns no such insurable interest a contract in form of insurance otherwise perfect is a wager and is void on that account." It is here cited Knox owned a crop of cotton.

That the consideration to the promisor is dependent upon the outcome of the uncertain event, or that the form of contract is not that in which insurance is ordinarily expressed, does not control its interpretation as a wager or an insurance contract, it is stated. This

particular contract, it was held, is not a wager, however, and is, therefore, not void. All justices concurred in the opinion except Justice Virgil Bouldin who dissented, holding to the view that the "agreement" was a "wager."

Heavy Infestation Of Boll Weevil Reported In South Alabama Section Squares Appearing In Advanced Crops; Late Planting And Reduced Fertilizer Application Responsible For Backward Condition; Corn Crop Reported More Satisfactory.

By P. O. DAVIS

AUBURN, ALA., June 12.—The arrival of Summer weather has brought the cotton crop of Alabama nearer to factors which threaten to interfere with production. In Houston, Geneva, Covington, Escambia and other counties in that section hundreds of boll weevils in cotton fields are reported. They are appearing along with the squares, giving evidence of their intentions to help harvest the crop before it has matured. Farmers say that the weevil emergence is unusual in numbers, but there is very little inclination to poison them at the right time. A general feeling prevails Knox was absent. He testified Knox told that if boll weevils eat a portion of the crop no great loss will be incurred.

Furthermore, most farmers are not inclined to pay out money or incur debts to poison weevils with cotton at prevailing low prices. Having planted and worked their crops, cotton growers seem to be satisfied to let nature handle the situation after the last cultivation. A few, however, will use poison.

Cotton Below Normal

Over the State as a whole the cotton crop is not advancing at a normal rate for June. It is slightly late and is growing at a subnormal rate. Farmers and county agents agree that the slow growth of cotton in the South portion of the State is due to insufficient fertilizer. As the season advances a subnormal rate of growth in North Alabama is expected. In fact, it has appeared where the crop was planted earlier and is more advanced. Plants do not possess a healthy appearance as heretofore when liberal applications of fertilizer were made with seed and as a top dressing of nitrogen after the first chopping.

Squares Appearing

Squares are appearing in the Southern portion of the State and the first bloomings are expected any day. Blooming will be behind schedule this year because of late planting and a reduction in the amount of fertilizer used.

But cultivation of all crops has made good progress in the State. Rains have been adequate but not excessive except in a few localities, especially Coffee County. Late May and early June rains in most of that county exceeded needs causing both cotton and corn to turn slightly yellow.

Reports do not mention any localities seriously needing rain although a rain would be welcomed in several counties.

It would hasten growth but, on the other hand, it would interfere with cultivation and stimulate the growth of grass and weeds. Farmers are hoping for favorable weather until they can cultivate all their crops and get them off to a good start. In the main this has been done.

Condition Of Corn Improved

The condition of the corn is better than that of cotton. The main difference lies in the fact that corn receives normally a much smaller portion of fertilizer used by Alabama farmers and is, therefore, not affected so much by a sharp curtailment as occurred this year.

The peanut crop now promises about normal production. Most Alabama peanuts are produced in the southeast portion of the State but small amounts are produced elsewhere. Less fertilizer goes under peanuts than under any other important crop in Alabama, and, in view of this fact, peanuts are affected very little by changes in the total amount of fertilizer used.

Very little planting remains undone except a small amount of late corn on the lowlands in the north portion of the State and cowpeas for hay. Successive plantings of vegetables will be made throughout the year in order to push forward with food production and food preservation.

Sorghum seed have been planted to make syrup and to make ensilage. Both sorghum and sugar cane are as promising as usual for early Summer.

Soybeans, cowpeas, sudan, and other hay crops are advancing at a normal rate with present prospects of fair to good yields. This, however, will depend upon Summer weather, which is a very vital factor in the production of hay as well as other Summer crops.

Farm Women Busy Canning

While farmers are hastening with cultivation farm women are busy with canning, drying, and preserving. Hundreds of thousands of cans and jars are to be filled this season, already a substantial part having been made.

Farm women and girls began their food preservation work in the Spring when the first fruits and vegetables were ready. They are continuing; and will continue until Fall. Each fruit or vegetable in season is being canned or dried or preserved or made into jams and jellies.

Home demonstration agents are promoting food preservation to supply home needs plus some for sale or for distribu-

tion to those in want. If favorable weather continues the amount of food saved by Alabama farm people this year will exceed the total of any other year.

Black Belt 'Coming Into Its Own,' Is Statement Of Farm Publication

"The Black Belt is coming back and coming back in a big way," says The Progressive Farmers and Southern Ruralist.

Montgomery Ala. "With the leadership still resident in that section, with its limestone soil, with its native clover vegetation, with an intelligent operated experiment station, with sympathetic business interests in its cities and towns, and with many other natural advantages," are reasons given in an editorial in the June 15-30 issue as to why the Black Belt is coming back.

The editorial entitled "Alabama's Black Belt and its Experiment Station" reads as follows:

The fame of Alabama's Black Belt has spread far and wide. Long has it been looked upon as one of the choice farming sections of the South. Its vast area of black, waxy soil has been responsible for that. Natural growth of sweet clover, black medic, and other native brands of cow feed brought further attention to this great section. The success of good cattlemen here and there further enhanced its reputation. And for years all eyes were turned on the great Black Belt.

Boll Weevil Plays Part

But something went haywire. The boll weevil stuck its nose into the affairs of the Black Belt. As a result cotton production became hazardous. Cheap labor left for better labor markets. Farm and business interests were put to it to preserve the reputation of a great agricultural section.

But there were courageous hearts in the Black Belt. If the old way of doing things would not do, then new ways must be found. More beef cattle were turned into the fields. More attention was given to sheep for wool and lamb production. More milk cows were sought out and brought into the territory. Cream stations were established. Even creameries were built. Thus a market was created for the grass and "weeds" that grew in the fields.

Other Problems Present

But the Black Belt still had its problems. There were too many spots where the grass and "weeds" didn't grow fast enough. There were too many places where the clover crops were crushed underfoot by the grasses and weeds of the

less desirable sort. Perhaps there were other grasses and clovers that could help build up the grazing values of the richer spots, the average, and the poorer. Was the help of fertilizer needed? If so what? Then there were the grain crop problems and what to do for profitable crops of other types. These and a myriad other problems confronted the thinking farmers of the Black Belt.

That's just the sort of situation an experiment station relishes. That's its job. Starting with what is known with definite assurance, it attacks these problems one by one. Bit by bit the truth is ferreted out. And as facts are definitely proved, the information is passed on to the public.

Thus it is not surprising to see the fine progress being made by Alabama's Experiment Substation in the Black Belt. Results are showing amazingly fast. Last season hundreds of Black Belt farmers went to this station to see the great grain crop and to learn how it was produced. This season they are going to see what superphosphate is doing to pasture crops. And all who go are coming away convinced that the station is already justifying its existence.

Proper Fertilizer Profitable

The most striking thing to be seen at the station now is the way pastures jump when fertilized with superphosphate. The improvements is easily seen on the good soils, the bad, and the indifferent. But it takes a good dose to cure them. Two hundred pounds did only fairly well. Eight hundred pounds made a showing. Twelve to 2,400 pounds made a pasture. Of course, it isn't contemplated that the heavier application will be repeated oftener than once in three years.

There is no doubt in our mind that the Black (soil) Belt of Alabama is coming back. With the leadership still resident in that section, with its limestone soil, with its native clover vegetation with an intelligently operated experiment station, with sympathetic business interests in its cities and towns, and with many other natural advantages, the Black Belt is coming back and coming back in a big way.

The wisdom of the State of Alabama is finding expression in its branch experiment stations, one on each important soil type in the State.

Condition of SOUTH MOVES TO AID ITS CHIEF INDUSTRY

Business Leaders and Scientists
Are Working to Improve
Position of Cotton.

NEW USES BEING SOUGHT

Efforts Directed to Improving
Quality and Reducing Sur-
plus Stocks.

James
By JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES 2d.

Editorial Correspondence, THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., July 14.—

When George A. Sloan, president of

the Cotton Textile Institute, ad-

ressed the Kiwanis Club of Bir-

mingham a few days ago, he wore an

immaculate suit of cotton. His neck-

tie, socks and belt also were made of

cotton. Most of the Kiwanians wore

cotton suits, too. Their choice, like

that of Mr. Sloan, was deliberate and

patriotic. They were wearing cotton

goods as a gesture in behalf of great-

er consumption by Southerners of the

staple on which Southern prosperity

still depends. They were wearing it

to prove that this prolific product is

not without honor in its own land

They were challenging a persistent

overproduction with a new source of

consumption. They were protesting

a present price of about 5 cents a

pound for something which costs at

least twice that much to produce.

They were issuing defiance to mil-

lions of bales held for many months

in the warehouses of cotton coopera-

tives, the Farm Board, banks and

private factors.

Outside the Kiwanis dining room,

however, on the streets, in offices

and shops and homes there were

many other men wearing cotton suits

for altogether different reasons. Most

of the suits came from a single fac-

tory in Georgia and cost \$4.95. They

were being worn, first, because they

are very cheap, and, second, because

they are very serviceable and good

looking in hot weather. Their wear-

ers had little or no notion of helping

the Southern staple or of being pa-

triotic. They had bought the cotton

suits because they were good suits,

and they liked them, and could af-

ford them even in these times.

Other Important Happenings.

Other things were happening, too,

outside the Kiwanis dining room as

George Sloan spoke. At Sylacauga,

Alexander C. Avondale and othe-

Alabama points, officials of Donald Comer's textile mills, the biggest in the State, were continuing their campaign for better quality in Alabama cotton, for the longer staple upon which successful competition with foreign and Southwestern cotton depends. At Auburn agents of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute and the Alabama Industrial Development Board were deep in their own campaigns for crop diversification, reduced cotton acreage and cooperation between industry and agriculture which will afford Southern farmers a bigger home market for their products. At Auburn, too, Professor George Washington Carver, the Negro scientist whose accomplishments in agricultural chemistry are widely known, was probably putting away in his laboratory on experiments which are developing new uses for cotton and cotton seed.

Because Mr. Sloan has made himself a veritable high priest of quality, style, advertising, varieties, clear away customs long obsolete and new uses in cotton textiles and which have brought the south almost of cooperation among manufacturers to the point of economic and social in the economic and humanitarian wreckage." conditions of their operations, he was doubtless quite aware of the fact that what was taking place at the Kiwanis luncheon was of considerably less import to cotton than these other things which were taking place outside.

Of Interest to Economists.

In other words, while the activities of luncheon clubs, chambers of commerce, women's organizations and newspapers in behalf of cotton consumption as a patriotic duty are valuable and are producing certain results, the far more valuable and productive activities are those now being directed toward making cotton really worth using and making that worth known. A few people will use a little cotton for sweet charity's sake—to help the South—but a great many more people are now being persuaded to use a great deal more cotton because of the extraordinary advances achieved in quality, fabrics, design, colors, uses and advertising. Noting these advances, the 10 per cent decrease in cotton production and the promised elimination of Farm Board and cooperative surpluses, economists may soon be admitting cotton again to that value which they say belongs only to a thing limited in supply and large in demand.

Peaceful Revolution' Urged As Economic Aid to South

BY R. E. POWELL.

A group of nationally known leaders in business and industry, meeting in Birmingham this week as the Southeastern Council, organized to shift an unfavorable trade balance of approximately \$1,000,000,000 from the back of the southern farmer through a peaceful, economic revolution, this unfavorable trade balance, the leaders at Birmingham agreed, ought to be converted into a healthy favor-able trade balance. They held that the recent election was a political revolution "through which we will substitute right methods for wrong methods, style, advertising, varieties, clear away customs long obsolete and new uses in cotton textiles and which have brought the south almost to the point of economic and social wreckage."

Some of Group's Aims.

The Farm holidays, strikes and "plow every third row of cotton under" plans are looked upon by these men as so much bunk. Political activity looking to this and that kind of preferential legislation is not the question of the moment. That question is to bring the south to a full consciousness of agricultural possibilities through a unity of purpose and action.

Taking a lead in the movement was Hugh McRae, of Wilmington, N. C., businessman who, despite several futile attempts, has established two separate farm colonies in eastern North Carolina that for a number of years past have paid dividends both to McRae and the colonists.

Tentative Program.

McRae, in Atlanta en route home from the conference, summarized what the council holds must be done:

1. Through constant demand and purchase encourage farmers to produce the goods which they now buy from other sections to their own impoverishment.
2. Insist that processing and merchandising establishments give preference to and supply home-grown and home-manufactured products of standard quality.
3. Rebuild a satisfying rural civilization through a substitution of farm ownership for tenancy.
4. Adopt as standard practice a requirement that each farm be self supporting through the production of home-grown food and feed stuffs.
5. Appreciate as does the west that a dollar kept at home is worth twenty.
6. Realize that the community is best which, after providing for its own needs, performs the most service for other communities.
7. Extend vocational and increase technical education.
8. Insist that southern farmers substitute in large measure for the present one-crop cash-crop system a program of small grains and legumes and, as a natural sequence, animal husbandry.
9. Devote sub-marginal lands, which now produce ruinous surpluses of low

quality products at a loss to the producer, to the protection of forests. 10. Provide adequate fire protection for cutover and forested lands and arrange for a system of taxation which will permit of profitable reforestation. 11. Expect that those economic in-



HUGH M'RAE.

terests which derive their revenues, as a whole or in part from the south, help in a tangible way to build and maintain the purchasing power of the southern people.

Leadership Is Available.

McRae referred particularly, in stating that the council at Birmingham was composed of a leadership keen to get the south out of the doldrums, to General R. E. Wood, president of Sears, Roebuck & Company, one of the principal speakers; Herbert C. Ryding, president of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company; Dr. Bruce R. Payne, president of the George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tenn., and to Howard Coffin, of Sea Island.

"Our meeting proved conclusively," McRae said, "that the south has the leadership required for this renaissance of agriculture and that this leadership is keen to be of the kind of service that will get results."

"In the next place, it was determined to develop a program so brief, so clear, that it can be made at once useful, and then to create an organization to put that program into operation. After finding certain basic facts, it is necessary to get a true perspective of the size of the job and then determine the forces strong enough to do it."

To Restore Earning Power.

One of the fundamental aims of the council will be, McRae explained, to restore to the south the earning power "which will permit a living wage to virtually all of its laborers."

Success of the council, McRae believes, is largely up to the press and the women. The press, he said, has already taken the initiative in presenting to the people the major items in the agenda of the council. Miss Jenn Coltraine, Concord (N. C.) social worker, has been named vice president in charge of women's activities.

North Carolina, noted the fact that there are thousands of acres of fertile pasture soil in the south which are not utilized.

"Instead of capitalizing our winter green," he said, "we grow scrawny scrub stock and what feed they get is what we buy from the west. The idea of a southern stock raiser trying to compete with the west in any such fashion. If we husbanded our own resources and opportunities, the west couldn't compete with us."

Plan Born Here For Creation Of Livestock Bank

Agency Would Stimulate Cattle Raising Through Loans Now Unavailable Industry Is Enlisted

W. A. Bellingrath Heads Group Entrusted With Setting Up Organization

Industry and business joined hands with agriculture in Alabama yesterday and set in motion a plan, the carrying out of which will mean the establishment of a livestock credit corporation or a livestock bank to assist in the development of livestock growing on the farms of Alabama.

The plan was born at a joint meeting of the Alabama Industrial Development Board and the Alabama Agricultural Board, held in the office of Gov. Miller. Enthusiastic and unanimous approval of the plan was given by more than 100 industrial leaders, farmers, bankers and professional men gathered at a banquet board at the Jefferson Davis Hotel in the afternoon. It was the most representative gathering of its kind ever held in Montgomery. Capital aggregating \$1,500,000, 000 was represented at the dinner.

Representatives gathered at the dinner unanimously adopted resolutions that livestock at a reasonable profit. Yet we were passed by the two State boards during the morning and a committee was appointed to work out the details of the plan which will mean the organization of either a livestock credit bank or a livestock credit corporation. In turn this bank or credit corporation, will be enabled to take advantage of federal funds available through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation which was created by Congress on Jan. 22.

The one central idea around which discussion hinged, both at the meeting of the two state boards in the morning and the banquet in the afternoon, was the encouragement and development of livestock growing on the farms of Alabama. And that encouragement and development, it was stated, could not be made of direct aid to the livestock grower by the creation of a bank or credit corporation where

he could borrow money with livestock as collateral. Commercial banks, it was explained, were not able, as a result of present laws, to use livestock as collateral for loans to any extent.

Following Minnesota

Industrial leaders from many sections of Alabama, as well as bankers and farmers, approached the subject of livestock encouragement on Alabama farms in a deadly serious vein. With the example of Minnesota and adjacent states before them, an example of what livestock can do if a well planned program is carried out, members of the two State boards as well as those gathered at the dinner table, approached the subject with a determination that something besides talk would result. And the plan was launched and there remains now a duty on the committee appointed by Chairman Jesse Hearin of working out the details for the establishment of the livestock bank or credit corporation with a sufficient capital to really start Alabama out along the Minnesota trail.

The Minnesota livestock plan has resulted "in the cow, the sow and the little red hen" producing livestock products of \$422,500,000 in the last year. That is more than the annual gold production of the world. Minnesota has gone so far with livestock and poultry that the wheat crop of the State, as large as it is, is only a drop in the bucket of products on the farm. And that is what is expected of Alabama some of these days, as Alabama adds beef cattle to the sum total, while Minnesota has not done.

Mr. Hearin presided at the luncheon and every man present stood up, told his name, residence and business. The menu was an Alabama menu. The tomato juice was from Alabama tomatoes. The sweet mixed pickles were Alabama pickles. The turnip greens were Alabama raised. The candied yams were from Alabama farms. The fresh mushrooms were raised at Talladega. The lettuce was raised in Alabama. The strawberries were from Alabama. The chicken came from Montgomery County. The ice cream was made in Alabama out of Alabama products.

Opening the conference Mr. Hearin said "there is no section of Alabama that can not produce a reasonable amount of livestock at a reasonable profit. Yet we are buying from beyond the borders of our state dairy products each year valued at more than \$20,000,000. We buy from other states 75 per cent of our beef, ship 76 per cent of our pork outside and probably 90 per cent of our lamb. Hogs are being shipped from Iowa and Missouri, through Montgomery, to be slaughtered at Birmingham and Moultrie, Ga. Cattle are being shipped from the great Central West through Montgomery to be slaughtered in our own state."

Discussing Minnesota and three surrounding states Mr. Hearin said: "It is interesting to know that by a 10-year plan adopted and carried out in a practical way these four states have during the past 10 years increased the number of cattle to almost as great an extent as the increase in the other 44 states combined."

For Sound Organization

Mr. Hearin offered the suggestion that he way to launch the plan was for the establishment of a well organized, adequately financed and carefully managed cattle or livestock bank or association.

Thomas W. Martin, president of the Alabama Power Company, reported to the luncheon on the joint meeting of the industrial and agricultural boards of the morning. "Those of us who are not in agriculture," said Mr. Martin, "accept the viewpoint that there is something that can be done for agriculture. You can count upon us in industry to do our part in this program."

Vice-President J. M. McGruder of the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of New Orleans explained the set-up of that organization and how it functions in the interest of the farmer. He said that not a dollar had been lost by the bank on livestock paper.

R. J. Goode, member of the agricultural board of the State, offered for adoption the resolutions passed by the two State boards during the morning and they were unanimously adopted. Tom Bowron, of Birmingham, president of the Alabama Banker's Association, and vice-president of the First National Bank of Birmingham, endorsed the program as outlined. "Our association," he said, "is willing and anxious to assist in the carrying forward of the program in any way we can."

Committee Named

At this juncture Mr. Hearin announced the personnel of the committee that will work out the details for the organization of the livestock bank or the livestock credit corporation, whichever is decided on. The committee is composed of W. A. Bellingrath, of Montgomery, chairman; Thomas W. Martin, Birmingham; Bruce Catherine; H. E. Snow, Montgomery; J. B. Barnett, Monroeville; Wiley Alford, Columbia; E. C. Melvin, Selma; and H. C. Ryding, Birmingham.

Hugh Morrow, president of the Sheffield Steel and Iron Company of Birmingham, gave his endorsement to the program. "I have never attended a gathering where more diversified interests were represented and so ably represented. We are learning a valuable lesson in cooperation. Agriculture must come ahead of industry if we are to reach prosperity again. We must maintain the proper balance between the two. I believe this is the biggest and most helpful thing attempted in Alabama in the last quarter of a century."

H. M. McDowell, Southern representative of Swift and Company, told

the conference, "We have a market right around us that will absorb more than four times as much livestock as we are raising. Finding a market is not the problem. Raising the livestock here is the problem. We can produce livestock in Alabama at a lower cost than it can be produced in the States from which we buy."

W. C. Bowman, president of the First National Bank, of Montgomery, said, "We have a real need for just such a program as launched here. It is a constructive undertaking. I pledge you our unstinted support of such a movement." He explained that commercial banks are not in position to do the necessary financing for livestock encouragement and that such a program as outlined for a livestock bank or a livestock credit corporation will be in position to do the financing.

Col. Ab Aldridge, of Birmingham, president of the Southeastern Fuel Company and a native of Wilcox County, expressed pleasure that there was no spirit of selfishness on the part of those in the conference. "I can see that the desire of all is to help," he said. "The men who came to attend this conference came to help." He pointed out that loans on livestock are the best kind of loans. He said it was necessary to raise the earning power of the farmer to bring back prosperity.

Dr. L. N. Duncan, of the Auburn Extension Service, explained the set up of his organization. He made the significant statement that an extension service program had been worked out where county agents will not in the future engage in business enterprises of any kind. "I pledge you the wholehearted cooperation of the extension service in carrying out your program," he said.

Key Foster, of the trust department of the Birmingham Trust and Savings Bank, said, "Our bank, I am authorized to say, pledges you 100 per cent cooperation in any movement to assist agriculture."

Grover C. Hall, editor of The Montgomery Advertiser, said that editors don't usually agree on things but the program as outlined was one on which every editor can and will agree and that the press of Alabama will be behind the movement 100 per cent.

W. C. Lassiter, editor of The Progressive Farmer of Birmingham, pledged the assistance of that paper in the movement. Dr. Wittmier, banker of Blount County, told of the assistance being given farmers of Blount County by his bank. Following the introduction of a number of visitors the conference was brought to a close.

The Resolutions

The resolutions adopted by the conference, and previously adopted by the two State boards, follow: "1. That the Alabama Industrial Development Board and the Alabama State Board of Agriculture recognize that agriculture is still the basic foundation of permanent prosperity in the South, and that as 72 per cent of Alabama's population is still rural, it is imperative that there be cooperation between the various groups in the State, particularly the banking, manufacturing, merchant and industrial, with the farmer, to this end of supporting a systematic, practical and definite farm program which shall be formulated by the agricultural leaders.

"2. It is further recognized that business men of these various groups will have to commit themselves to active cooperation and agree to give the plan their moral and financial support in bringing about more practical methods of farming in Alabama.

"3. It is further recognized that a definite program for diversified agriculture should be based upon good farming with good livestock as the essential element, which requires the immediate organization of a strong, adequately financed livestock bank or agricultural credit corporation with experienced and capable management. Such an institution should have sufficient capital to permit it to extend its operations into all parts of Alabama, and perhaps into adjoining states.

"4. It is further recognized that such a financing institution should be organized and managed with the view of securing part of the capital under the terms of the acts of Congress including the Act approved by Congress on Jan. 22, 1932, creating the Reconstruction Finance Corporation; and also with the view of securing the fullest benefits offered by the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of this District, thereby securing the fullest rediscount privileges permissible under the act and the organization of the Credit Bank;

"5. That the institution should be operated along lines that will offer its stockholders reasonable protection for their investment, with the hope of dividends sufficient to attract additional capital from time to time to permit the expansion of its activities as may be consistent with safe and conservative banking.

"6. It is further recognized that any program adopted must have leadership and look to gradual improvement along definite lines over a period of five to 10 years, and should have in its leadership the strongest, ablest and most experienced of the agricultural and business men in the State; that the best form of farm relief is summed up in the words 'Good farming with good livestock' and that a campaign should be planned in which the banks and business men may join and be carried throughout the State, showing the necessity of the plan and the various details incident to carrying it out successfully.

"7. When the plan is definitely worked out, the Industrial Board and the Board of Agriculture will then consider and give their endorsement to the same if it appears to be sound and is assured of experienced and capable management.

"8. That additional funds for agricultural research be provided.

"9. That the chairman be authorized to name a committee to formulate plans for putting these regulations into effect."

FOR THE COMMON WELFARE OF ALL

ALABAMIANS

Something happened to Alabama yesterday. In all reasonable probability we shall continue to feel the effects of it for years to come. For men of influence and power, men of many interests and many talents, sane men of conservative temperament, assembled here, and assembled in impressive numbers, and pledged themselves to stand together for a more prosperous agriculture.

In the round table conference of farm-ers, bankers, industrialists and professional men, held in this city yesterday, there were many talks, but not a windy speech was made. There were no oratorical flights—there were simple, straightforward discussions of the realities of Alabama's agricultural situation, and direct pledges of cooperation between the economic groups of this State to advance agriculture.

Members of the State Industrial Development Board, comprising some of the leading industrial figures of Alabama, and members of the State Board of Agriculture, some of the leading bankers of Alabama, including the president of the State Bankers Association, representatives of the Farm Bureau Federation and the Extension Service at Auburn, members of the press, and representatives of some of the civic organizations of the State, came together for this conference. They talked frankly about Alabama's agricultural situation, and they made pledges which bind them to stand together in a sustained effort to strengthen the position of agriculture in this State.

The emphasis was all on livestock and plans for financing its production. A committee of able farmers, industrialists and bankers was named to formulate plans for a credit agency which will serve the peculiar needs of Alabama in this respect.

There is the key to the situation. We have the lands, we have the climate, we have the people, we have the technical experts, we have the markets for livestock, but we have no thoroughgoing credit system which is especially adapted to the needs of the livestock grower. The first problem, then, is to establish such a credit agency, and put it under the direction of

experienced, clear-headed men who will know how to operate it successfully. As Mr. Martin, president of the Alabama Power Company, pointed out, whatever we undertake must be something which we can carry through; we must not make the mistake of setting up a plan which is foredoomed to failure, for every failure sets us back.

It should be gratifying and reassuring to every farmer in the State, and to every well-wisher of the farmer, that the financial and industrial leadership of Alabama has struck the hand of fellowship with the agricultural leadership of the State. In the talks made yesterday spokesmen for the banking interests of the State and spokesmen for the great industrial interests of the State, all agreed that the primary concern of the economist at all times should be agriculture. If agriculture languishes, all else languishes, if agriculture prospers, all else may prosper. They recognized that the farmer's interests are the common interests of all.

And all agreed that something tangible could be done to strengthen the position of agriculture. All agreed that there were steps which we ourselves could take which should benefit us all. All agreed that all of us must stand together, not for a day, or a month, or a year, but permanently. We believe something good, something tangible is coming out of the meeting in Montgomery yesterday. We believe that something happened to Alabama! Certainly no choicer group of men has been brought together for any purpose in Alabama in this generation!

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S EXAMPLE TO ALABAMA FARMERS

There is a close connection to be drawn between the recent movement to increase cattle production in Alabama and the George Washington bicentennial.

News accounts of recent public addresses by Howard C. Smith, son of Washington's farm lands had many characteristics in common with South Alabama sandy land soils, as well as Montgomery lands. The best of Washington's farm lands were like the level red lands on the Mt. Meigs Road, the hillier sections were more like the Southern Coastal Plains soils of Alabama and many other cotton states.

One may not claim that Washington

was a skilled dairyman for he bought but-ter while owning 101 head of cattle. Neither was he an experienced grower of beef cattle, for he often expressed dissatisfaction over the colonial production of meat and its quality.

Washington, however, imported cattle, strove to get better sires, kept records of his herds, built up his pastures, realized that grass, and not brush lots, were best for milk production and in many ways was scores of years ahead of his time.

Washington was a pioneer farmer. He therefore grew mostly corn and wheat with other minor cereals. Cattle and hogs were an incident with a few farmers of his day and time. There were less than half dozen books on agriculture, he had no lamp to guide his footsteps. In spite of all this Washington became a leader in cattle raising. His efforts are the first record in importation with a view of building up herds.

Turning now to Alabama and what we may learn from history of about 150 years ago.

Washington seeded his pastures to grass and tried to grow alfalfa.

Alabama has not made a success of alfalfa, neither did Washington. Alabama has in its 10 Black Belt counties a soil second to none for a combination pasture of grasses and pasture legumes.

Alabama has a growing season nearly 100 days longer than Washington had and we can grow better and longer pastures than could he.

Washington's stock was inferior, of no especial breed and neither adapted to milk nor beef production. It was adapted to make a fierce struggle for existence and a brief period of milk production in the Spring. Alabama's stock is the result of years of breeding to a higher level of production.

Alabama has recognized breeds for dairying and beef production. The dairy cattle are represented by Jerseys, Guernseys, Holsteins and Ayrshires, the Jerseys being vastly predominant.

Alabama beef breeds are Hereford, Aberdeen Angus, Red Poll, and Shorthorn, the Herefords being in greatest number. The above dairy and beef breeds have been tried out sufficiently for farmers to recognize the breeds of greatest popularity.

The lesson to be learned and inference to be drawn is plain. Is Alabama ready and willing to pattern after Washington of 150 years ago and steadfastly put on a livestock program to be pushed for a considerable number of years until our vacant acres are utilized?

The answer to this question lies with the farmers and the coordination of a

large number of financial and educational interests. One of the first things to do is to find out what we have done. Where do we stand? Which way are we headed? Alabama knows what it ought to do.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.

JOURNAL & TIMES

JUL 16, 1932

Under the Dome of State Capitol

POOR RETURNS

The producer is often discouraged by the prices he receives for things shipped to the city markets. A striking example of small recompense for a large amount of labor is related by the Hale County News as follows: "A certain Hale county citizen who lives at Akron, Ala., and two negro hands spent three hours preparing hides for sale. When prepared the skins were sent to a hide and tallow dealer in Birmingham. The citizen received the following statement:

2 sacks hard grease wool	\$1.26
1 dry damaged hide03
1 small lamb skin02
Express	\$1.25
Check enclosed for80

"Any person of sound mind will see the unfairness of a deal that causes three hours of labor and realize a check 45 cents for compensation. Something must be done in Alabama to remedy such an evil. No business can be sound based on a non-profit price. It is time that the seller of produce received payments equal to labor spent, or refused to sell his wares."

Agriculture - 1932
Condition of
OCALA, FLA.
EVENING STAR

FEB 8 1932

PROUD OF OUR DARKIES

The record being made by Marion county with its splendid agricultural exhibit at the South Florida Fair should be very gratifying to every loyal Marion county citizen. At this writing Marion county has received five first awards out of twelve major groups of agricultural exhibits at the fair, scoring first in hay, grain, sweet potatoes, sugar cane and syrup, not to mention many third and fourth prizes taken. Marion, a north-central Florida county placed at some disadvantage in competing with south Florida counties, due both to the fact that the county as a whole is not sponsoring the exhibit and the wider range of seasonable products south Florida counties are entering; is running Manatee a close second for first place, Manatee being only one group ahead at this writing. This is the first time, the records show, that a middle or north Florida county has made such a fine showing.

But best of all, the splendid exhibit sent to Tampa by Marion county's colored farmers has again been awarded first prize over colored exhibits from the entire state. This is the third or fourth time Marion's colored farmers have achieved this distinction and Marion should be proud of them. Possibly we, ourselves, don't know what it means to the county to have our colored farmers go to Tampa year after year and attract state-wide attention. It means much as we shall try to show.

The other day when the state racing commission was in session in Tampa and a group of Miami people who had business before the commission, had time on their hands awaiting the commission's action on matters at issue, some one suggested that they spend the afternoon visiting the fair. The writer, proud, of course, of the announcement in the morning paper that Marion was scoring high, suggested that the visitors have a look

at Marion's exhibit. Judge of our surprise when, late in the afternoon, one of the party, after returning, made the statement that he found more and many of them had a milk cow. to hold his attention in the exhibit of Marion county negroes than any other one feature of the fair and became so interested in hearing the

story of the progress being made by the colored farmers in this county, that he spent half an hour talking to W. B. Young, colored county agent, in charge of the exhibit. This gentleman spoke in the highest terms of the exhibit of Marion's colored farmers and gave it as his opinion that their industry was outstanding in comparison with anything exhibited at the fair. He called attention to the fact that the exhibit was not so well located as the space, nor as attractive as to decoration, but for substantial worth as a demonstration of what a negro farmer can do in cultivating the soil, was far superior to some of the other displays more appealing to the eye. Such a statement, entirely voluntary and bearing every evidence of being sincere, is high praise indeed. Marion should be proud of the darkies who till the soil.

NEGRO FARMERS HAVE
— PLENTY TO EAT BUT
"AIN'T GOT NO MONEY"

Gainesville, Fla.—The negro farmers of Florida usually answer "Yes sir, Boss, we got plenty to eat but we ain't got no money," when asked about their condition, explains

W. T. Nettles, district agent with the Florida Agricultural Extension Service, who has recently visited a large number of negro farms with the negro county agents in the central part of the state.

In one of the counties, 25 farms were visited and all except one reported plenty of home-grown supplies to take care of the family and livestock needs. This one had corn, bread, potatoes, and peas, but no meat. Practically everyone of the

Florida

Condition of
CLEVELAND, O.
PRESS

MAY 1 9 1932

The Farmer and the Liberal

By F. H. STERBENZ

CONSIDERING the nation at large, one of the greatest difficulties facing our dis-sentient groups is their inability to find a common ground. When three of four Liberals are gathered together, there will be three or four programs, none of them in agreement. Most Liberals are intolerant. They will agree in denouncing the existing order; but be completely unwilling to listen to any solution other than their own. This is a general characteristic whose force increases in intensity as one moves to the Left.

In considering a few of the major regional divergencies, we discover at the outset the ancient conflict between the urban worker and the farmer. The two have a community of interest that is seldom realized. It lies in a precise balance between high return for the farmer and cheap food for the urban worker. Farmer domination of legislatures and the Congress have given the farmer a sense of special privilege beyond the fondest dreams of the plunberbund. It has ruined him. And the ruin has placed a heavy hand on the farm worker. This is not all the story, of course. The farmer is the victim of technological development, and sometimes of land speculation. Where he differs from the small capitalist in other pursuits is in the assumption that the government must guarantee him a market. That's the meaning of most farm relief proposals.

NEVERTHELESS, the plight of the farmer does present an urgent problem, altho it is in no way as urgent as that of the 8,000,000 or more of urban unemployed. The farmer represents 45 per cent of our population. He is, perhaps, entitled to nothing more than the economic lot of the 55 per cent of urban population. The urban worker may benefit by cheap food prices, but he loses to the extent that the farmer is unable to buy urban products and services.

The producers of the great surpluses, in wheat and cotton, particularly, must finally be driven out of those crops. Sending the ruined farmer to town to work doesn't help in times like these. The movement is in the other direction.

The urban Liberal takes up a program for farm relief with great reluctance, because he

discovers in such programs evidences of inequality of treatment. Such proposals as the reduction of the land tax, in favor of state income tax, as additional credits at low interest rates and the readjustment of loans made at inflated prices, suggested in some quarters, seem possible of accomplishment as long as they are urged for the farmer. But anybody who seriously advocated the readjustment of bank loans on urban real estate might find himself in a hospital for the mentally ill. The city man, too, knows that the farmer does not pay income taxes; he knows, too, that the farmer evades the gasoline tax by the simple method of using in his automobiles gasoline that was purchased tax-free for tractors. Further, it is difficult for the city man to get over the hostility caused by years of obstruction in farmer-ruled legislatures.

Co-operation between the major divisions of dissatisfied voters is thus made difficult. Other difficulties arise over the injection of the prohibition question, over the plea for equality of the Negro, over the admission of aliens and over some questions involving labor.

ON THE FARM THE MACHINE AGE RECEDES

As a result of recent economic upheavals, portentous events are taking place on the farm. A sign and a symbol is the return of the horse. In the article that follows, a student of agricultural affairs who made extensive journeys over the great farm areas recently, discusses the adjustments taking place and indicates the social changes which he sees as accompaniment.

June 9-11-32
By BERNHARD OSTROLENK

IN the machine age the farm there came a halt; a new chapter in American agriculture is opening. The migration back to the farm and the low cost of horse feed as compared with that of gasoline are making it expedient for the farmers to abandon the use of farm tractors and labor-saving machinery (which made the farmers of America the largest producers per man in the world) and to return to horses as a source of power, at the same time increasing the employment of labor.

It was the horse, substituted almost at the beginning of American agriculture for the slow-moving oxen so commonly used at the time by European farmers, that enabled the American to expand his operations and to subdue the vast expanse of our agricultural empire. The scarcity of farm labor demanded the utmost economy in the use of men and made mandatory the use of labor-saving devices. A man with a pair of oxen could scarcely plow more than half an acre per day, but a man with a pair of horses could plow two acres per day. In time, five horses were hitched to a "two-gang" plow and operated by one man, who could then plow five acres a day.

Before the coming of the tractor, horses in large number already were being used to draw multiple machinery, which could be operated with a minimum amount of man labor. The pressure for this development continued; labor was scarce and high-priced. During the World War farmers were urged to increase production while man power was being drained from the farms by war industries, by the draft and by the drift to the cities.

The coming of the gasoline tractor precipitated an agricultural revolution. One man, sitting on a tractor

The Return of the Horse to the Plow Is a Symbol of the Far-Reaching Changes Wrought by Economic Events

pulling a "three-gang" plow could now plow from ten to twelve acres a day. Whereas one man with five horses on a harvester could cut and bind only about five acres a day, the same man with a tractor and larger cutter could do as much as twenty to twenty-five acres a day. With the use of tractors, gang plows and harvesting combines, one man can produce in one season an amount of wheat equal to that which ten men could produce throughout their entire lives in the days of the Pharaohs.

There seemed to be no limit to the increasing production per man that could be developed in the United States, even though the American farmer produced less per acre than most of the European farmers. Increasingly he became a mechanic—an expert user of complicated mechanical devices for large-scale farm production.

Not only did the need for subduing a vast agricultural expanse with a relatively sparse population contribute to the rapid development of machinery on the farm, but the movement was still further encouraged by the need to reduce production costs in order to enable American farm products to compete in the European market.

The farmer in the making in the United States differed from European agricultural producers in that he was establishing for himself a standard of living equivalent to that of the higher type of urban workers. Farm production in other countries is relegated to the peasant, the mujik, thebauer. In Germany and France the agricultural system is a survival of the feudalistic period. The serf in Russia became the mujik of the nineteenth century, and he has remained in a semi-servile state under Czars and Communists. The rewards for agricultural production have always been so low and so uncertain that they provided the lowest living standards to the producers, who had to be willing to perform work of the roughest and hardest type and to acquiesce in the long hours that farming demanded.

IT was with groups of low-paid European producers that the American farmer competed in the European market. He wanted large returns per man rather than large returns per acre, because land was cheap and labor dear. In Europe land was dear and labor abundant.

Here domestic forces were at work to drain labor from the farm. High wages in the cities drew farm boys and girls from the homestead. Moreover, as the frontier disappeared and as horses, and then the tractor, began to reduce the amount of labor necessary for production, there really was no place for the farmer's boys on the farm. The farm boy properly went to the city because the industries beckoned and the farm afforded less opportunity for employment.

Farm population dropped actually and relatively between 1900 and 1910, made a further decline from 1910 to 1920, and dropped still more sharply between 1920 and 1925. The city-ward movement of the farm population aroused grave misgivings in the minds of statesmen and social leaders. They saw in the drift to the cities a disintegration of our rural population, which rightly or wrongly was considered the source from which came leaders in industry, finance, the professions and letters.

A country life commission was appointed in 1906 by President Roosevelt to recommend checks upon this urban drift. In pulpit and press was advocated a "back-to-the-farm" movement. But in essence, the drift had its impetus in the lesser need for labor on the farm and in the increasing demand for labor in the cities. As the farmer became more expert in the use of machinery he could increasingly dispense with farm labor; on the other hand, he was under constant pressure to dispense with farm labor because he could not compete with the high prices paid for labor in the cities.

In the last five years this situation has changed wholly. Prices of agricultural commodities have con-

tinued to decline until they have reached a level at which the farmer cannot afford to produce by the use of machinery. Now there has also been a change in supply and cost of farm labor. The boys and girls who left the farm in such high hopes are returning disillusioned about the city, but eager to work out their destinies on the farm. Retired farmers and farm laborers who had turned their back upon farm life when high wages lured them city-ward are again seeking opportunity to work and live on the land. Farm wages have dropped to unbelievably low levels.

The higher price of land is also a factor in the change. It may be argued that land values have melted away in the economic upheaval; nevertheless, there remain the mortgages on land, on which interest has to be paid, and the taxes that have to be met. Together these charges make for high-priced land. The farmer is therefore eager to get more crops per acre to meet the charges against the acres he holds rather than to farm a larger acreage. We are thus coming to more intensive farming rather than more extensive farming. In brief, we have now come to the point in American agriculture where land is dear and labor cheap. Readjustments must be made to meet these new conditions.

Another factor, which is of course sharply decreasing the use of farm machinery, is the absence of credit to buy and operate this machinery. The rapid introduction of farm machines was facilitated in large measure by permitting the farmer to pay for them with the crops they produced. Implement companies were liberal because banks readily discounted the farmer's paper. But during the last ten years, and especially during the last three years, the banks have become increasingly frozen with agricultural paper, and have been forced to contract credit progressively.

THE last year has been especially rigorous for the farmer. The drop in prices of agricultural

commodities has so reduced his income that in many cases he cannot meet the payments for interest and taxes, to say nothing of notes on the machinery he has purchased or may wish to buy. The absence of money income has often prevented the operation of the machinery that he already has. He needs money to buy fuel and oil and parts.

During the Summer now drawing to a close, the increasing use of horses has been evident on all farms. It has meant longer hours of labor on the part of the farmer, but that had ceased to be a deterring factor. It has even meant the use of more labor, but this was unimportant because of the presence of a large amount of family labor that

had returned from the cities. With gasoline advancing in price, and taxes being added, while oats remained at 10 cents a bushel, the farmer found the cost of horse power per acre to be actually cheaper than gasoline power.

In brief, the forces that once made for the rapid mechanization of farm operations have wholly disappeared, and we now have economic forces that are encouraging a movement back to horse-drawn implements and to the greater use of labor. Obviously it means the absorption of a considerable group of unemployed urban workers by agriculture: a fact which cities will welcome because it will help to relieve them of the problems of large groups of idle men.

The effect is different from that which might have come from various proposals, notably that of Henry Ford, to colonize the urban unemployed on the land. This movement is taking farm workers back to their first calling. Moreover, it is taking them back to farms that are already going concerns.

ONE sees the movement everywhere. Abandoned farmhouses are being reoccupied. Farm homes are filling to capacity. The roads leading to the South are crowded with the migration of colored people fleeing from the rigors of the city back to the cotton fields of the Piedmont.

Out in the rural districts the con-

sequences may be several:

(1) The filling up of the countryside may vastly improve social conditions.

(2) Circumstances attendant upon the movement will reduce production and therefore may be an aid in stabilizing farm prices. This effect has already taken place in the Winter wheat area of Kansas and in the cotton fields of the South. In the South, because of the absence of credit and consequently the smaller use of fertilizer, this year's cotton crop is fully three million bales less than average production during the last three years. There is no doubt that the absence of credit, in spite of abundance of available labor, has been responsible. The decrease in wheat production in Kansas cannot be due entirely to the smaller use of machinery, but there appears no doubt that less speedy farm operations with horses have reduced production. We may look for more adjusted agricultural production in time because of less available credit and because of smaller use of farm machinery, in spite of more labor available.

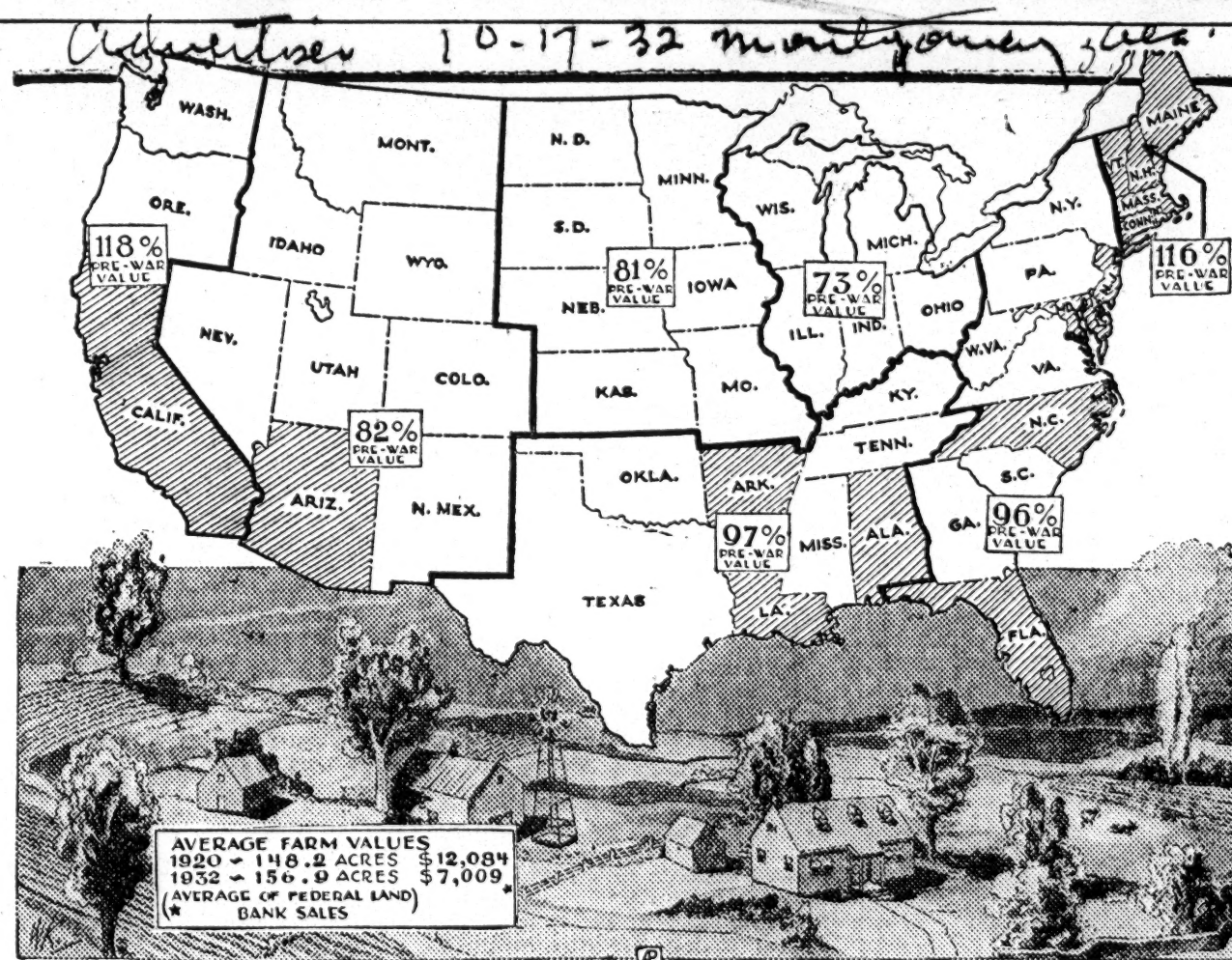
(3) Finally, we may have considerable shifting from the money-crop farming depending upon wheat, cotton or tobacco to a farming that will be more self-contained. Again, as of old, the farmer will produce more and more of the things he uses and will not, as hitherto, grow crops exclusively for sale in order that he may buy the things he needs. Evidences that he is already doing so strike the eye throughout our agricultural regions.

All this may mean a narrower life for the farmer. It may mean less money income in the future and less purchasing power for industrial commodities. But it may also mean greater security and more freedom from the agonies and hazards of this commercial age.

TRACTORS AGAINST MULES

During the past two decades many of the farmers, following the lead of manufacturing and other concerns, became addicted to the use of machinery, thereby displacing mule power and, of course, curtailing labor. No one took the time to compare cost. The main purpose seemingly was to follow the fad of the machine age. On many farms it was a rare sight to see a horse or mule, and as for laborers, these were reduced to the minimum. Even life on these farms was not as animated as that before the advent of the tractors. Some of these farmers have been forced to stop and take stock. Prevailing conditions forced them to do so, resulting in the return to the use of the old reliable mule. This is especially noteworthy in the findings of one of the Georgia counties, where tractors and road machinery have been extensively used. This county has returned to the old method because it was found that the cost of machinery and operation is more than the use of animals and attendants. A general change on most of the farms will mean much in the reducing of our unemployment, thus benefiting the large number of our men in the rural districts. It may also be the means of attracting those elsewhere who are merely existing. This will be the result especially if the farmers are disposed to treat fairly those who serve them, and the local officials provide adequate school facilities for the children.

Farm Values In 13 States Above Pre-War Levels



Farm values have fallen generally since the war, although in two groups, the Pacific and New England States, the percentage of pre-war value is 118 and 116, respectively. The other State group showings are listed also in the accompanying map. In the 15 States shaded, all of New England and New Jersey, Maryland, North Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, California and Arizona present values are above those before the war.

Considered by groups, only the New in 12 years in Rhode Island and Connecticut and Pacific States, with 116 percent but have fallen off 157 points and 118 per cent, respectively, showed in South Carolina and 133 points in higher than pre-war values on March 1; Iowa.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—(P)—The average farm in the United States consists of 156.9 acres and on the basis of 1932, whereas the average for the East North Central group was 73 per cent of pre-war on that date; West North Central, 81 per cent; Mountain States, 82 per cent; Middle Atlantic and South Atlantic groups, 96 per cent and East South Central and West South Central, 97 per cent.

That is considerably less than the pre-war value, and, being an average, does not represent a somewhat brighter side of the farm price picture, which shows 13 States where farms are listed as being worth more than before the war. In 1920 farm real estate values were from 217 to 230 per cent of pre-war in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Utah, Georgia, Mississippi, Arkansas, North and Nevada.

The 12 Federal Land Banks sold \$1,500,000 of farm properties during August compared with \$314,000 for the same month in 1931 and values listed from an average of \$1,685 for a farm of 55.4 acres in Mississippi to an average of \$16,493 for a 123.6-acre farm in Iowa.

According to the agricultural census of 1930 the average farm in this country comprised 148.2 acres and was worth \$12,084 in 1920 when farm real estate was at its peak and prices were 170 per cent of pre-war value. They now are 89 per cent.

Those that are above pre-war were the New England States, New Jersey, Maryland, North Carolina, Florida, Alabama, in Mississippi at \$3,546. Those were the extremes. At \$70,633 per farm the District of Columbia had the highest average value of farm property in 1930.

Values have declined only four points

Agriculture - 1932

Condition of THE SOUTH AS AN ECONOMIC UNIT

An address of Alfred P. Sloan, president of the General Motors Corporation, delivered recently at Boston to the Chamber of Commerce, stresses the home market as the immediate resource of American industry in its broadest sense.

Mr. Sloan indicated, however, that he was in theory one of the "world unit" school of economic thought, stating that the prosperity of all the people on the globe would be tremendously enhanced through a gradual lowering of all tariff walls. Such action, he contended, would permit those nations best able to serve the world most efficiently on any specific thing to produce that specific thing. Nevertheless, he believes such a desirable state of affairs is in not immediate prospect of realization as the selfishness of the several countries in "protecting" their own industries stands in the way. - 12-32

"Therefore," Mr. Sloan said, "it seems to me that irrespective of what might be possible, we may as well accept the fact that at least until the peoples constituting the various nations, especially those of the United States, radically change their viewpoint, the only thing we can do is to continue to capitalize to the fullest possible extent our home market, the greatest by all odds that exists throughout the world, our overseas markets becoming incidental rather than of primary concern, and to adjust our economic structure with that plan in view."

Probably no section of the country has been more sold on the "export idea," which Mr. Sloan now regards as unfeasible than has been the South. It is interesting to note, in connection with the Sloan thesis, that Peter Molyneux expresses pretty much the same idea as to the development of the home market in his Texas Weekly, an able economic review of his State and section. "What we need in Texas," he says, "is a reconstruction of our unbalanced economic set-up. We are top-heavy." He then continues:

Too large a percentage of our people are engaged in producing things for foreign export, and too small a percentage are engaged in producing things for the Texas and the American market. Our economic future will be determined by whether we can successfully transform that situation. And our success in that respect will be determined to no small extent by the dominant point of view of our people. Let no

man think that the habitual public attitude of a people has no relation to its economic history. Texas will not become this or that irrespective of its people. It will become what its people make it. And what its people make it will be determined in no small degree by the attitude of its people. That is why we think it is important that such generalities as we have enumerated above shall become the habitual background of the dominant public opinion in the State.

This utterance of The Texas Weekly leads The Nashville Banner to observe:

What Mr. Molyneux has to say of his Texas is largely applicable to every State in the South. Its "economic set-up" is as plainly defective as is that of Texas. The fact that the South is annually sending approximately \$1,000,000,000 to other sections for food products needed by its citizens and by livestock, practically all of which could be raised or processed in the structure of these States, viewed as a whole, is radically defective.

Two deductions from the existing condition of unnecessary and costly dependence for food on other parts of the country are manifest and incontrovertible. One is that agriculture must be diversified and the other is that factories must be established in the South to take the raw materials from the farm and process them for use as food. The canning industry in the South should be promptly and greatly enlarged. Its present proportions are only a suggestion of what is needful to supply the needs of the section.

The remark of The Banner on the establishment of food-processing plants throughout the South suggests the thought that economic independence means something more than merely consuming ourselves the materials we produce. It has the additional implication of self-help. Along with the tendency of the South to rely on foreign factories for the buying of its raw staples has existed a similar lack of self-reliance, probably not fully realized, in depending on the magic flow of "foreign capital" to develop new industries. While this outside capital might have been nearly indispensable in the upbuilding of certain Southern industries, such as the steel and iron industries of Alabama, certainly we should not be justified in waiting on this wonder-working foreign capital to establish the food-processing industries throughout the section.

George Russell, Irish poet, philosopher and agricultural economist, has given as one of the principal reasons for the world movement to urban centralization and rural decadence, the fact that these very food-processing industries, associated in

past times with the farm, have been concentrated in the cities. In line with this idea, one of the chief features of his agrarian revival program in Ireland has been the encouragement of the farmers to do their own butter-making and even the preparation of finished products from the flax raised on their own acres, either individually or by village cooperation.

So, if and when a great program of feeding herself is undertaken by the South, it is to be hoped that such a program will not too greatly concern itself with the trite, time-worn and often fruitless expedient of "interesting Northern capital" for the food plants. There is small reason for awaiting a great corporation to establish a chain of canning factories in the various Southern cities when each farmstead can do its own canning. The emergency work done by Southern women in this respect to provide food for the depression victims might well be remembered during a period of economic revival, when the Southern farms are raising enough of food to nourish the people of this section.

Furthermore, there have not been wanting thinkers along the line of agricultural economics, who see in the farmstead factory the very means of preserving the farmstead as we know it. They believe the future of the small farmer against the threatened competition of corporation farms with mass-production of crops, lies in his ability to be his own converter of raw material into consumable forms—a manufacturer, in fact, and maybe a merchant as well, for the opportunity of the enterprising agriculturist to build up a trade with individual consumers has been demonstrated by many successful experiences—scattered, it may be, but none the less significant.

Of course, all this speculation on the establishment of food-processing plants when the South is able to feed herself is in the nature of the crossing of a bridge when one is many miles away from the span. But it may not be without profit, and certainly is not without pleasure, tentatively to suggest a sane, individualistic and self-reliant policy for the economic independence of our section.

Anniston, Ala. Star
Wednesday, March 9, 1932
**THE NEGRO ECONOMIC
PROBLEM IN THE SOUTH**

As the Southland enters upon another crop season, with attendant plans, policies, relief measures and planting schemes, recognition should be given to the economic status of the negro tenant farmer, one of the most serious problems that confronts our country today. The welfare of the negro is a matter of vital concern to a great many business men, as they occupy an important place in both agriculture and industry because they are consumers and workers in both branches.

Realization of this fact prompted the Julius Rosenwald Fund to have an investigation made some months ago. Dr. T. J. Woofter, Jr., of the University of North Carolina, recognized as one of the leading economists and statisticians in the South, made the investigation and from his report we obtain a wealth of valuable information. Dr. Woofter deals with the problem both from the agricultural and the industrial standpoint.

There is a great reservoir of labor on Southern farms today, the report shows. The population, both negro and white, is rapidly increasing by excess of births over deaths. Approximately 80,000 more negroes and 300,000 more white people are born each year than the number who die in this area. The increase is taking place in a region which under the present system of agriculture will not adequately support those now living there, so that the excess is drained off to the cities.

As a part of the general agricultural situation the negro farmer in the South relies on the one-crop system. He is subject to grave fluctuations in the price of cotton and tobacco and does not raise a sufficient proportion of his own food and feed, although there is a change for the better already under way through constant educational matter by farm agents. The negro is involved in the tenant organization, is dependent upon exorbitant credit facilities and until recently, has been subject to unsatisfactory market conditions.

In so far as the negro is a part of the general problem of agriculture in the South, such steps as are being taken to help agriculture in general should result in his improvement, if care is taken to see that these general programs are as effective for the negro as for the white farmer. But it may be that additional efforts can usefully be made.

The special suggestions of Dr. Woofter were: 1. Agricultural education in negro schools and state colleges should be generally strengthened; emphasis should be laid on agricultural economics especially in farm management and marketing. Private as well as public funds can play an important part in this work. 2. Continuing attention should be paid to extension facilities in order to increase productivity and promote better farm

management, especially by improving the caliber and increasing the number of farm and home demonstration agents and through the Federal Board of Vocational Education. Negro agents are especially effective in reaching negro farmers. 3. Efforts should be put forth to include negro farmers in cooperative marketing projects. Special efforts are needed to make the negro realize the value of cooperative marketing and enter into the activities of these associations. 4. Experimentation should be undertaken to discover better and more economical methods of handling production credits for negro farmers. 5. Efforts should be undertaken to widen land ownership by negroes, both individually and collectively, and to strengthen communities of negro land holders.

In industry as in agriculture, profound changes affecting the negro have been taking place in recent years. In the South, whites now compete with negroes for such occupations as domestic service, carpentering, brick-laying, plastering, painting, and barbering, most of which formerly were largely traditional negro callings. Negroes in large numbers have moved Northward to enter a wide range of urban occupations. By 1920 one-third of the negro population was in cities, and the census of 1930 showed an even larger proportion.

Losses in one class of occupations have been offset by gains in others, but the shifts have worked great hardship. The losses have been in certain skilled trades and in municipal employment in the South, and in jobs such as waiters and barbers, both South and North. The greatest gain in negro employment was in the steel, meat packing, rubber, and automotive industries. Questionnaires indicate that the major plants which employed negroes before 1920 have since continued to employ negroes before 1920 have since continued to employ them in about the same number.

The committee notes that there are obstacles to the rise of negroes into the higher paying jobs, but both the census of 1920 and the fact-finding report of Dr. Wooster indicate an increase in negro employer in skilled and semi-skilled occupations.

Since the South has made wards of the black race, we should be more particular of our guardianship, and work towards the end of helping them and thus bettering our country generally.

NEW YORK
HERALD-TRIBUNE

MAR 6 1932

Negroes Would Farm

Land Available in South if Government or Philanthropy Will Give Them a Start

To the New York Herald Tribune:

The plan to reduce unemployment in the North by returning thousands of Negroes to the farms in the South, as reported recently in your paper by Mr. Mark Sullivan, would be hailed with delight and profit by thousands and thousands of self-respecting Negroes provided: The government and philanthropy would first prepare a place for them. "Back to the Farm," "Stay on the Farm" was the advice and admonition of Booker T. Washington, the greatest Negro Moses the Negro people have ever had. If the black man on the farm will farm to make a living he will get wealthy, but if he farms to get rich he will make a failure.

There are tens of thousands of acres of fertile farm lands in the South capable of producing fifty bushels of corn, or fifty bushels of wheat, or two tons of hay or a bale of cotton an acre, that can be bought for \$2 an acre, and thousands of acres can be bought even for the taxes an acre. Now if the United States government or philanthropy will buy up these lands, divide them into small farms, say of thirty or forty acres to the farmer, equip them with houses, barns, stables, mules, farm implements, feed stuff for stock and rations for farmers just for the first six months, place the farms under competent farm superintendents, then charge the farmers a rate of annual rent for the lands that will in the course of a specified time be equal to the cost of the investment, and when all rentals are paid give the farmer a fee simple deed for said farm land—I warrant you if this plan is carried out that the North nor the South, the East nor the West will never be concerned by the unemployment situation of the black man.

He would not be a ward or a charge of the government like the Indians on their reservations, that cost our government millions of dollars for their upkeep; but the Negroes would constitute colonies of independent farm land owners. There would be no peonage, debt slavery, lynching, mob violence, nor intermarriage, and it would be the first opportunity that the Negro farmer would have to carry out the injunction of our great North

Carolina Governor, Gardner, "Live at Home."

I have permission from Mr. Hugh McRae, capitalist of Wilmington, N. C., and greatest farm colonizer for whites in eastern Carolina, to say; that he indorses such a plan for the Negro farmer of the South and feels certain in a very short time he would become self sustaining and sometimes wealthy.

I want to say here for the information of citizens who might seem inclined to rush the Negroes back South in train loads and cargoes that because of the white farmland owners' failure "to farm to make a living" that most of them are so impoverished that they are un-

able to furnish their Negro tenants who have five and six in the family any more than \$1.50 to \$2.50 a week a family during the six months of fourteen hours a day on the farm required to make the crop.

As to the Negroes' future in the United States; I would say, because of the race's inability to give high grade employment to the thousands of college men and women that are economically adrift, it would be wisdom for states and philanthropy to stress the agricultural, industrial and common school accomplishments of the race until the race would become economically strong enough to support and give employment to its college and professional men and women. Colonies of independent Negro farm land owners would be the nucleus for such a prosperous and independent race supporting situation, for the future Negro.

W. P. EVANS.

Laurinburg, N. C., Feb. 27, 1932.

THE TWO BILLION

IF we read correctly, Congress is about to pass a bill providing for a fund of two billion dollars to be turned over to a corporation headed by Mr. Dawes of Chicago. The bill provides that the fund shall be made available for banks, railroads, industries, and farmers.

Just how the money is to be put into circulation is a matter of detail to be worked out by Mr. Dawes and his associates. It is the hope of the Republican party that this huge fund will loosen up some of the frozen assets and thaw them out to the point of flux. If this is done immediately, the Republican party may derive some benefit from the legislation. It is one thing to appropriate two billion dollars; it is quite another thing to make that two billion dollars available. We are somewhat accustomed to what is known as red tape, circumlocution, evasion, and financial diplomacy. If the two billion dollars must hurdle all of these impediments before it finds its way to the unemployed, the financially embarrassed, and the hungry, the Republican party will not derive any benefit from the appropriation.

Every confidence in the world is placed in Mr. Dawes, and his associates are men whose names rank high in public confidence. If no political impediments are attached to the machinery of the corporation, it is reasonable to suppose that Mr. Dawes will function immediately and efficiently.

But the farmers had better look to their interests if they expect to get much of the money. Already we note that a railroad, long since in the hands of receivers, has asked for the huge sum of around eighteen million dollars. Of course, the asking does not necessarily mean the giving. We mention this one incident simply to awaken the farmers to a sense of their own safety. The farmers, and especially Negro farmers, should find their way to the door of Mr. Dawes, and do it without delay. We are not in sympathy with the bankers who have loaned all the money to Europe and now expect the taxpayers to refund it. We are not in sympathy with those highly skilled financiers who keep one hand on the pocketbooks of the taxpayers and the other hand on Wall Street. We are not in sympathy with the agencies and financial forces which permitted banks to fail in communities practically populated and supported by rural workmen and farmers. We are not in sympathy with any program intended to give the bankers more money with which to retrieve their lost fortunes scattered all over Europe. We are interested, however, in the rehabilitation of American industries, the small fellow, the little business man, the farmer, the man who carries the burden in times of peace as well as the musket in times of war.

The two billion dollar fund should reach the most needy, the most deserving, and if it does not reach these classes, it will not serve its purpose, and the Republican party will not derive any benefit from the legislation.

Condition of.

Can the American Farm Be Saved?*

By E. G. NOURSE

MOST of us are getting restive now that the depression is stretching out beyond the period that ex-pounders of business cycles had led us to expect. During the first year we were buoyed up by prognostications of a "minor cycle" and hopes of early recovery. As the second year wore on we thought we were fulfilling any probable requirement of expiation. But now that we are well into the third year of depression, with most of our friends very bearish about the future, we insist that something drastic be done.

Since the troubles of agriculture began as far back as 1920, many people are moved to advocate the most extreme measures to deal with rural problems. Are not the farmers, after eleven full years of suffering, entitled to priority in the nation's program of economic recovery? Doubtless. But unfortunately agriculture is not the logical place to begin with our reconstruction program. The major planks in any realistic platform of economic rehabilitation relate to public and private finance and to the quickening of industrial activity and the revival of commercial exchange. Agricultural prosperity will follow naturally in the wake of any such general trade revival, whereas no amount of specific tinkering with agriculture can initiate a general price recovery.

On the other hand, there are several definite threats to agriculture in the present situation if it is allowed to drift. These harmful influences might still further impair the position of agriculture and cause it to contribute to a yet deeper demoralization of the whole business situation. Or, if general recession were checked at this point, they would militate seriously against the farmer's efforts to secure a satisfactory economic position for himself during the period of recovery. These difficulties center chiefly in the questions of ownership of the farm plant, access to land for agricultural use, and charges on land. Any sane agricultural program at the present time should bear three general injunctions in mind:

1. Don't take the farmer's land away from him.
2. Don't tax him to death.
3. Don't leave submarginal areas to private exploitation.

In the early twenties I advised Iowa farmers to let farms bought during the boom go back to the sellers or mortgagees and to avail themselves of bankruptcy proceedings rather freely as a means of shifting to other parts of society a burden which had fallen on their shoulders, not through any fault of their own so much as through the operation of a far-flung combination of social forces. Most of them tried to hang on, and there was a good deal of stretching of credit to enable them to do so in order to protect an inflated capitalization. Most of those who bought land at "war prices"

have by now given up their farms and accepted the loss of much or all of the family's savings. But many farmers still hold farms inherited from the previous generation or bought at pre-boom prices. As the years of mounting costs and shrinking returns have succeeded one another, they have put new mortgages on these farms or added to old ones. And they have had to put all that they could sweat out of themselves and their families into holding their mortgaged acres. It would be a cruel injustice to force them out at this late stage of the price decline. Not only this: to do so would further disrupt our agriculture.

We should have a general moratorium on foreclosures and forced sales until we can see on what price level agricultural commodities and farm lands are going to stabilize themselves. The action of Congress in putting an additional \$125,000,000 into the Federal Farm Loan system will help materially toward this end. Such stabilization as results from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is another step in the right direction, even though belated. These measures should be amplified by every other possible means of carrying out the same policy. But we ought to go farther than this. Mortgage obligations should be scaled down to the actual earning value which agricultural lands will have during the working lifetime of the present generation as nearly as this can be estimated. And methods of estimating should be conservative.

Such a procedure would be an innovation in the field of farm finance. But it is an old story in corporation finance. When security holders find that a company has been capitalized far beyond its actual earning power and any reasonable prospect of future earnings, they frequently deem it expedient to resort to constructive reorganization rather than destructive liquidation. Preferred stocks are drastically pruned and bonds scaled down even without extinguishing the shareholders' interest. Such a course is followed where and because there seems to be prospect of permanent income through the continuation of existing operative arrangements, and where labor and management can be paid only if fixed charges are substantially reduced.

However lamentable the losses which our farmers have been suffering, they are infinitely less disruptive of the nation's economic well-being than it would be to drive the farm families off the hundreds of thousands of farms where they are in arrears on mortgage obligations, or to leave these families in possession only on condition that arrears of interest accumulate and compound on a principal sum in excess of present value and prospective earning power. This latter course would preserve nominal ownership at the cost of future decades or generations of work, exploited to support a war-time capitalization. The most wholesome

result all around will come from realistically facing revaluation in the light of changed conditions.

As for taxation, practically everyone who has studied the matter agrees that the antiquated general property tax puts an undue burden on agriculture. This disparity is inordinately magnified with the growth of the total tax load. It was bad enough in the days of the district schools and mud roads, but with the attempt to bring rural standards of living up measurably close to those of the town it has become intolerable. The urban cynic answers that the rural sections should be content with a red schoolhouse or stop squawking about the expense of more modern school advantages. He quite overlooks the fact that the rural sections, which average a lower per capita income than the rest of the country, have to provide the cost of schooling, not to mention the birth and rearing, of a larger quota of children—who after living in the country during their dependent years move to town to spend their productive adult life. The road problem is somewhat similar. Automobile highways were built in response to urban demand, and the profits from their construction have practically all gone to the city, but a disproportionate amount of their cost has been assessed upon abutting farm property. With mounting school and road taxes, the farmer's bill has been rising to \$400, \$600, and \$800 on a quarter-section farm from which it has become increasingly difficult, not to say impossible, to get a \$1,500 or \$2,000 annual income. In poorer sections it may be \$100 of tax out of \$600 or \$800 of income.

This problem cannot soundly be met by the scaling down of these services. Country schools are still, on the average, much behind even village schools. A large percentage of our farmers are still relatively isolated on roads impassable for periods of weeks or months. And adequate hospitalization and even moderate public-health service are yet to be provided. The cost must be socialized through shifting the burden to State and national budgets, putting taxes largely on an income basis, the more courageous use of death duties, and the use of registration and gasoline taxes for support of the road system.

In one direction, however, there is an excellent prospect of reducing the cost of local government. We still maintain an elaborate system of horse-and-buggy counties in an automobile age. No one but a blind man could spend an afternoon in a rural county courthouse without being aware that rural counties as a whole are maintaining facilities and personnel two, four, or six times the actual number required for the adequate performance of the service on the basis of full-time work for the necessary functionaries. Vested interests in the village and political conservatism on the farms make the task of pruning off this excess growth a difficult one. But it presents an outstanding opportunity for economy without sacrifice of social service—the chance to clip a coupon on our investment in hard roads.

A third suggestion for safeguarding the farmer's economic position concerns land policy. We hear a storm of

protest about overproduction, the "surplus problem," whole-sale reversion of lands, and the cost and inadequacy of public services in thinly settled regions. It is high time that we wakened up to the fact that these questions run back largely to the basic problem of land utilization, and that the troubles can be very greatly ameliorated even though not entirely cured by a new and enlightened land policy.

For three hundred years we have sought to encourage and stimulate the maximum private settlement and ownership of our land area, with unregulated private business enterprise in its use. This course was based on two implicit assumptions. The first was that any piece of God's outdoors not actual swamp or desert would reward the expenditure of agricultural labor and capital. The second assumption was that there was a potential if not imminent scarcity of land. With the advancing technique of scientific and mechanized agriculture and advancing knowledge of farm organization and management we are coming to realize that we can get the maximum economic product with the minimum of effort and cost by applying agricultural labor and capital to certain more limited areas carefully selected with reference to their technological character and market location.

During the agricultural depression millions of acres of land have reverted to government—county, State, or national—through the inability of former owners to pay taxes or perfect homestead entries. In this moment of retreat from exploited colonization areas there must come some perception of the futility of attempting to wring an adequate living from any and all lands by the process of farming. Practically all the reverted acres, however, have gone into what the stock market would call "weak hands." The government officials of a State with a large submarginal area cannot possibly be counted upon to hold such lands a moment beyond the time when the first sign of reviving agricultural prices tempts unwary settlers to stake their fortunes on a cheap farm. Still more will county officials be eager to get a few dollars per acre in sales price or the payment of arrears of taxes and the prospect of taxpayers for a few years ahead. Furthermore, there is an enormous area of land no less submarginal which will remain in the hands of private holders throughout the depression period but be thrown open to exploitative development at the earliest chance for sale.

What manufacturer could face the future if his factory stood in the midst of idle plants which would be thrown back into production in competition with him upon such cutthroat terms the moment prices got back toward a remunerative basis? Unless we can devise such land policies as will give the body of suitably located and adequately equipped farmers reasonable protection against speculative operations below the margin, the business of agriculture will remain in a demoralized condition for many years in the future.

What we have been saying relates to the farmer's position as proprietor and operator. There is, however, another major division of our agricultural platform, and this concerns his position with reference to markets and prices. This problem may be considered from two points of view—one domestic and the other foreign. The former focuses sharply on co-operative marketing organizations and the Farm Board;

As for cooperation, it should be looked upon as a bulwark of strength in the agricultural organization of the future, bringing to the farmer and his inherently small-scale business enterprise the major advantages of large-scale business which industry and trade have developed through the corporation. Unfortunately, cooperation has been badly misrepresented and oversold to our farmers as a quick and easy form of economic magic. They have been led to expect the impossible in the way of price maintenance, and encouraged to think that they could get the benefits of cooperation by signing on the dotted line rather than by joining together in participating groups to hammer out certain very workaday business betterments. It was but natural that legislators and political and farm-organization leaders should have turned with relief to cooperation as the "sure cure" for agricultural distress. It is unfortunate, however, that the mini-Farm Board, which was intrusted with the generalship of this great movement, should have known so little of the true nature of cooperation. In its eagerness to make speed it tried to start the car in high. The inevitable result followed.

THE TREND TO THE FARM. charity for the security and safety of the farm.

Encouraging indication of the increasing trek back to the farm by city dwellers is contained in the report of the federal land bank of Houston that 77 per cent of the farm lands sold by it during 1931 were bought by urban residents later moved on to their new property. The bank finds in these sales "conclusive evidence that the trend from the farm to the city, which existed several years ago, has reversed itself."

In St. Louis the citizens' relief committee has obtained 60 acres of land for the use of 400 of the city's needy families in raising vegetables. The plan contemplates the opening of a cannery later during the season to preserve the surplus products.

Detroit had 4,369 such plots last summer and contemplates an even larger number this year. Other cities throughout the country have joined in the movement, which has the double purpose of producing fresh food for the unemployed and their families and giving opportunity for health-building exercise.

All over the south the unemployed of the cities, especially those who have formerly lived on farms, are joining the steady movement which is repopulating the hundreds of thousands of farms deserted during the boom years. They are swapping the hardships of an existence eked out with the aid of

The trend to the farm is not only relieving the burden of the cities in looking after their unemployed, but is aiding materially toward the re-turn of better times through its influence on the serious problem of how to reinstate the purchasing power of the present overplus of labor.

BACK TO FARM BILL PROVIDES \$10,000,000 LOAN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Apr. 25.—Congressman Black, of the 5th District of New York, introduced two bills in the House "to encourage the utilization of farming opportunities by certain destitute or unemployed persons."

The bill says: "That the Secretary of Labor is hereby authorized to advance opportunities to destitute or unemployed persons to engage in agricultural pursuits in which such persons have sufficient experience to so afford reasonable assurance of earning a livelihood and paying for necessary land. For such purpose the Secretary of Labor, through the Employment Service of the Department of Labor, and the Farm Loan Board are authorized to co-

operate in bringing to the attention of such persons information as to lands available for cultivation and purchase and information as to obtaining loans thru federal loan banks for purchase of such lands and for other purposes under the provision of Act of July 17, 1916, entitled 'An Act to provide capital for agricultural development, to create standard forms of investment based upon farm mortgages, to equalize rates of interest upon farm loans, to furnish a market for United States bonds, to create government depositories and financial agencies for the United States, and for other purposes,' an amended; but no loans shall be made to such persons except under conditions and circumstances assuring that the lands securing such loans are to be employed by the borrowers in raising diversified crops principally for local consumption.

"Sec. 2. The Secretary of Labor is authorized to take such other steps and make such arrangements as shall be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act and to make such regulations as shall be necessary to effect the purposes of this Act, but all regulations relating to loans shall be made as provided in the said Act of July 17, 1916, as amended.

"Sec. 3. Any appropriation for the Employment Service of the Department of Labor is hereby authorized to be used by that service in the administration of this Act."

He asks that the sum of ten million dollars be authorized and expended by the Secretary of Labor. The object of the bill is to provide for persons who were formerly engaged in agricultural pursuits and are now located in towns and cities of the United States.

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Colored Peoples Given Blame In Cotton Slump

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The operation of this act will give hundreds of men an opportunity to return to the farm, and at least make a decent living. "Back to the farm" should allure many unemployed men existing in any number of northern cities. Several hundred could leave Washington for this purpose.

Agriculture-1932
Condition of.

FALL RIVER, MASS.
HERALD-NEWS

DEC 23 1932

BACK TO THE FARM.

One of the results of slackness in work in cities has been to send folks back to the farm. This is the conclusion reached by the Department of Agriculture after looking over the reports of farm population today and those of years dating back to 1910 when there were more people living in the country than ever before or since in the nation's history.

From the year mentioned the drift of population was towards the cities. It continued until 1930, when the tide turned in the other direction. That was the time when unemployment began to be a matter of widespread concern. In that year 400,000 were added to the farming population. In 1931 the gain for the countryside exceeded half a million people, and, if the gain of the first quarter of 1932, it held proportionately throughout the year, the figure will considerably exceed a million.

So far as the department records show, the growth has been helped out by the return of young people from the cities, who could not find work and who concluded the chances of a living were better back home than in the cities. Prudent young folks, who might have been tempted to leave the farms, have remained there, because of the experience of others who had tried city life. A third group, noticeable in a study of the reports, was that of negroes, who had gone back to the plantations because living in cities without regular wages was difficult.

The farm movement has further been swelled by middle aged men displaced by younger workers in industries who have taken their families into the country in the hope of making a living out of agriculture in a small way. Immigrants figure in the increase also, but not to the extent of years when there were fewer restrictions on entry at American ports.

The farm population varies according to countrywide business conditions. Some doubt may be felt about the permanency of the recent rush back to the soil when jobs are again to be obtained in the cities, but it cannot be denied that modern conveniences for the enjoyment of life in the open spaces have somewhat weakened the lure of the cities, although they may never offset the long-standing attractiveness of regular hours of toil and a steady wage, when they are obtainable, that make city employment attractive to the young men and women born in the country.

Agriculture - 11

Condition of

COTTON SEED CRUSHED

GAINS 472,988 TONS

6-12-32

WASHINGTON, June 11.—(AP)—

Cotton seed crushed in the 10-month

period, August 1 to May 31, was

reported today by the census bureau

to have been 5,123,761 tons, com-

pared with 4,650,773 tons for the

same period a year ago, and cotton

seed on hand at mills May 31 was

398,200 tons, compared with 45,578

tons a year ago.

Cottonseed products manufactured

in the 10-month period and on hand

May 31 were:

Crude oil produced, 1,623,687,841

pounds, compared with 1,420,617,591

and on hand, 86,348,938 pounds, com-

pared with 33,055,963.

Refined oil produced, 1,391,293,754

pounds, compared with 1,276,873,481

and on hand, 705,361,066 pounds,

compared with 406,376,308.

Cake and meal produced, 2,306,815

tons, compared with 2,130,624, and

on hand, 150,165 tons, compared with

224,282.

Hulls produced, 1,448,094 tons,

compared with 1,285,785, and on hand,

201,405 tons, compared with 83,096.

Linters produced, 835,791 running

bales, compared with 812,317, and on

hand, 270,527 running bales, com-

pared with 248,728.

FARMS FILLING UP.

Reports from all sections of the

south tell of the rapid repopulation

of farms deserted during the trek

from the country to the cities dur-

ing the boom year.

Dilapidated farm homes are being

put into condition, shacks are going

up on idle lands and in many in-

stances tents are serving as shelter

for entire families who have left

the overcrowded and jobless cities

to seek the assured shelter and food

of the farms.

Food crops are now growing on

thousands of acres which have been

idle for years—crops not for mar-

keting but for the sustenance of

families which have been eking out

a miserable existence as members

of the unemployed armies in the

cities.

Especially in the sections where

the climate is warm both summer

and winter is this repopulation of

the farms rapidly filling up unused

lands. In these sections even a

dilapidated dwelling furnishes bet-

ter protection than in most in-

stances can be found in the cities

by those dependent upon charity.

The farmers of Newton county

have taken steps to assure suffi-

cient food for their families during

next winter through the establish-

ment of a community canning plant,

with a capacity of a thousand cans

a day. Erected in a single day by

the people of the Almon commu-

nity it will preserve sufficient vege-

tables, meats and fruits to supply

all food requirements during the

months when the gardens are not

bearing.

In Cedartown the unemployment

problem is being solved through a

community garden established some

months ago. The 400 unemployed

in this community are given work

in this garden, fed while at work,

and paid in vegetables, at wholesale

prices, which they take home to

their families.

In New York the state-financed

"back-to-the-farm" movement has

already placed 600 families on farms

and there are on file 3,500 appli-

cations from other families seeking

opportunity to regain independence

through the tilling of the soil.

Especially in the south does agri-

culture offer the logical and sound

method of solving the unemploy-

ment problem. Farming in this sec-

tion is simpler and easier than else-

where because of the mildness of

the climate, the fertility of the soil

and the wide variety of crops that

can be produced.

If organized backing were given

here, as in New York and other

states, to the back-to-the-farm move-

ment there can be no real doubt

that the unemployment situation

would soon be solved to the mutual

benefit of the cities and the rural

communities.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. TULSA, OKLA.

GAZETTE WORLD

JUN 24 1932 JUN 16 1932

Urges Negroes of the South To Remain on the Farm.

To the Editor of the Gazette:

I am touring the South under aus-

pices of the National Rural Industrial

Association, Inc. This association has

launched a five-year program, covering

the entire country teaching and advis-

ing the Negroes to remain on the farm

and those who left to return.

The farm is the natural home of the

human race and the race that turns

it backs on the farm is headed for the

rocks. The farm is a place to live on

and from, raise the family and become

useful; if one does this he will succeed;

but if he goes on the farm for profit, he

will fail.

Fifty years ago 75 per cent of the

people lived on the farm; today we have

10 per cent on the farm. The home,

the church and the farm are the pil-

lars of civilization and they have been

neglected. Thousands of acres of lands

are lying idle in the South when mil-

lions of unemployed, lying around these

cities, could take up these lands and

make a living.

If the money spent on taking care of

these poor and idle people was concen-

trated, it would go a long way in plac-

ing these people on the farm. Some

steps should be taken in cutting up

these lands, place these people on them

and care for them the first year, with

proper supervisions. This is better than

the dole system.

I have spent my life in the delta, but

I have always contended that our sys-

tem in farming and dealing with the

tenants was wrong; it would ruin both

tenant and landlord.

I am trying to speak in every court-

house of the South to both white and

Negroes. I want to show my people

that they are in the greatest country,

the most fertile country, with an op-

portunity to be a great people.

While we have a great many Negroes

on the farm, I find they are restless

and dissatisfied; this comes from sev-

eral causes, that I am explaining as I

lecture from time to time. I am ap-

pealing to my white people to change

the rural school system in the South.

We never will be able to keep the best

Negro on these farms until the school

system is changed. The schools will re-

plete or deplete the farms of labor. I

am explaining this to my friends.

Every primary school must be a home-

training school, teaching the proper

ideas and actions as well as the text

book.

I hope to be able to visit your state

and speak in your courthouses at an

early date.

J. M. Williamson,

Memphis, Tenn.

ONE OF THE most noticeable features of the industrial depression is the sad plight of Negroes in the cities, particularly in the larger cities of the north. It is well known that, since the World War, there has been vast dispersion of the colored race; that it has penetrated and is restricted to one representative, very materially affected many communities at considerable distances from the old south. The slump naturally hit these people, generally unprepared and inexperienced as they were, very hard. It was found that there are entirely too many Negroes in many cities; that is, there is not legitimate employment or opportunity for a great many of them. They are, of course, under handicaps.

In view of these facts, J. M. WILLIAMS of Memphis is touring the south under the aus-

pices of the National Rural Industrial Association, and he is urging Negroes to stay on farms.

He admits that the conditions are not so good; that many of the race are having hard times. That, however, is true of all races just now. He prop-

erly tells the Negroes that no race ever aban-

doned farming and prospered. There are many

thousands of acres of fine land lying idle in the

south, and there are too many people in the

towns.

The shift of population to cities has become

terrific. Naturally there must be readjustment.

The WILLIAMS theory is that the Negro should

stay largely in his native setting and follow

work for which he is best fitted. To that end,

he urges the white people to provide better

schools for Negro children and to aid in im-

proving farm life. The schools, he argues, will

either replete or deplete the farms. There is

truth and justice in his statements. These are

serious things for white and colored people alike

to think about. The rush to the cities should

be turned back; there should be a new rush to

the land. This is a time for facing elemental

forces.

NEW YORK CITY, Aug. 25 —

(ANP)—The recent reports of the

United States Department of Agri-

culture that thousands of families

are deserting cities and towns and

settling on farms have so interest-

ed a number of nationally known

men and women that a conference

has been called for August 27 to 31

to discuss what the Negro's status will be in the change which is now in progress. The conference will be held on the site of the Vacation Summer School of the Association for the Advancement of Negro Country Life at Gay Head, Mass., a beautiful spot near Cape Cod.

A call has been issued by the secretary of the conference, James H. Hubert, executive director of the New York Urban League, stating

that this conference will be a most informal and quiet discussion

around the campfire, on the beach and in the grove, with no set

speeches. The number of delegates

is restricted to one representative, preferably an outstanding exponent,

from each school of thought—each movement in America interested in

furthering the social and economic conditions of the race. It is hoped

that from this conference will come some organization of the various

groups represented.

The theme of the conference will be "A Way Out for the American

Negro," and a number of men and women who are regarded as author-

ities in their fields have consented to attend and submit data sufficient

for a basis of discussion on the general theme.

Among those who are planning to attend are Professor Gordon B. Hancock of Virginia University

who will open the discussion on the economic phase of the subjects; Dr.

Charles S. Johnson of Fisk Uni-

versity, who will talk on "Educa-

tional Trends;" Dr. Z. T. Hubert

former president of Langston Uni-

versity and field secretary of the

Association for the Advancement

of Negro Country Life, will discuss

racial possibilities along agricul-

tural lines. Others who are plan-

ning to attend include Bishop Wil-

bur K. Kirkfield, Dr. Kenyon L.

Butterfield of the National Coun-

try Life Association; Dr. B. F. Hu-

bert, president of Georgia State Col-

lege, and Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe

Conkling Bruce, resident managers

of the Paul Lawrence Dunbar

Apartment in New York City.

To Debate Progress Of Negro On Farms

8-27-32

SEP 1 1932

COTTON PRICE RISE
CHEERS THE SOUTHFarm Owners, However, Re-
quire 11 Cents a Pound to
Meet Their Basic Costs.

LESSON FOR THE TENANTS

Thousands Produce Own Food as
Credit Is Cut Off—Free World
Market Sought.

By BERNHARD OSTROLENK.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Aug. 31.—

The advance in cotton prices above 8 cents a pound has cheered the entire South. To be sure there was a time when cotton sold as high as 42 cents, and early in 1929 it was still 20 cents. The continued drop in prices since then, when it reached the low of 5 cents early last Spring, has made for all the agonies of deflation. Farmers throughout the South were subjected to all the rigors of the depression because of their virtual one-crop system, and it has put them in the direst poverty.

The system of farming that prevails throughout the larger portion of the South, especially in the Piedmont Valley, the States of Georgia and North and South Carolina, makes it difficult to estimate the cost of production, because when cotton sells at 20 cents a pound in one year the cost the next year is 20 cents, the producer living during the growing season on income from the past season. The cost of production, therefore, varies widely from year to year and is usually about equal to the price.

During the last two years, however, the price of cotton has been so low that the producers have been unable to meet out-of-pocket costs, to say nothing of having anything left for themselves. It is difficult to find a farm owner-operator in Georgia or in South Carolina who is making enough gross income to pay his interest, insurance and taxes. In fact he does not pay these charges. Creditors are especially hard hit in this section. They are the ones who are carrying the responsibilities and must find funds with which to pay carrying charges, interest and taxes.

Income of Tenant Farmers.

A large part of the cotton crop is produced by the Negro farmer on his twenty acres, with one mule. Ordinarily he raises about seven or eight

bales during the year, of which he owned land and rented it out, they gives two bales for rent, about two bales for fertilizer and seed, leaving him with about four bales as a reward for his labor and on which to live. Assuming that he nets four bales this year and the price is 8 cents a pound, his net income for the year will total about \$160.

While this over-simplifies the situation somewhat, it actually does show that the renter this year is not in such bad straits. In fact, he is even better off than this statement indicates, because no farmer in the South could get credit this year. Neither the banks, nor the merchants, nor the fertilizer companies were able to extend credit, and in consequence this year's crop is probably one of the lowest cost crops that has been produced in a decade.

The renters could not obtain money with which to buy fertilizer, and in consequence they bought none; therefore they have no expense for fertilizer, which usually took up about one-quarter of the crop. Moreover, they were forced to live throughout the year in the strictest frugality. During the greater portion of 1931 and the Spring of 1932 cotton was between 5 and 6 cents, and all operation had to be restricted to that basis.

Many Raise Own Vegetables.

Moreover, the Negro farmer has learned not to depend solely on his money crop. It always was his custom to go to the store for everything that he needed and then pay for it by the sale of his crop. But now that the merchant has refused him credit, and when on an increasing number of occasions he has been denied food for his family, he has learned the art of vegetable gardening. All through the South the vegetable garden is now as ubiquitous as the cabin. Moreover, the chicken and the pig have found a new habitat. In brief, the renter of the South this year is likely to have more purchasing power than he has had for many years. However, agriculturists point out that this condition cannot go on; that cotton cannot be produced without fertilizers and that what the renters are doing this year is merely living off the fat of the land and must be made up in succeeding years.

On the other hand, while the farmer's position has naturally greatly improved by this advance in prices, it has not been sufficient to give him even such a modest return as the renters will get. In fact, at present price levels of cotton he probably will not have sufficient gross income to pay taxes and interest on his land. Land owners, whether they be merchants or farmers, have been put in dire straits. The merchants are not getting sufficient rent from the land with which to pay their interest. **Land and farmers are not getting sufficient from their crops with which to pay their interest.** In consequence, all land owners have been thrown upon the magnanimity of the credit institutions.

Creditors on the whole have been lenient with debtors out of sheer necessity. Up to a few years ago foreclosures ran up alarmingly, but during recent months there has been a tendency to declare a sort of moratorium. The reason is that when creditors foreclosed on farm owner-operators, or on merchants who

Unemployed, Back on Farms,
Find New Freedom by Work

BY JAMES H. STREET.

SPARTA, Ga., Sept. 11.—(P)—

Georgians who went back to farms to make a living that city streets denied them are staying put on ground that will feed them.

And a new freedom, born of hard work in open fields, has brought a twinkle to eyes of parents who a few years ago beat their plowshares into spindles, moved their families to factory districts and became wards of society when their work was done. More than 100 families, of approximately 600 persons have been given new deals in back-to-the-farm movements in Atlanta and Columbus, and hundreds of others are on waiting lists, apparently eager to get back to the tall timbers and sage grass of rural Georgia.

Columbus' emergency relief board has rehabilitated 98 families in its back-to-the-soil program, and less than 10 have asked additional aid since they got dirt to till and a hoe to

stir it. The Atlanta Chamber of Commerce has returned more than 100 persons to abandoned farms in widely separated sections of the state. Roy LeCraw, president of the civic organization, who contends that emergency relief is only a temporary stimulant and is first cousin to a dole, organized the program with assistance of C. J. Robinson, secretary of the chamber, and Mayor James Key, who gave the city's support.

LeCraw learned that there are more than 60,000 abandoned farms in Georgia—their houses tumbling down from neglect and their lands dying with erosion. He and Robinson asked owners of some of the farms to grant unemployed families three years of freedom from rent, provided the families would improve the houses and work the land. LeCraw said he figured the country the cost of its upkeep in Atlanta would be reduced and that the city could save money by sending its unemployed, not employable, back to

farms. The cost of rent and fuel was eliminated the minute the families were established, he said, and the cost of rations was lowered substantially. More than one-half of the families sent back to fields have had their names removed from the emergency lists here and receive charity in no form now, he said.

Several families have moved to the Buffalo Creek section of this county. They cleared roads to abandoned shacks, patched their roofs, grubbed gardens, helped one another get a pig, a mule and some other stock by "hiring out," and today they sat on shady porches after a Sunday dinner and "reckoned we sho' are glad to git back to the fields."

Things Humming.

Within three weeks they have changed weather-beaten shacks into little homes, built a few hog pens and got things humming. Land is plentiful—miles and miles of abandoned acreage where cotton once grew, but where now foxes and possums prowl by night and rabbits.

Families have been sent from Atlanta to farms in Hancock, Harris, Coweta, Lamar, Barrow, Morgan, Jasper, Bartow, Dawson, Meriwether, Putnam and Hall counties. The LeCraw plan is to move the families into separated communities so they can fit into community affairs. The plan is not colonization, but simply re-establishing families on abandoned farms.

All the families have the same objective—plant enough winter truck and cut enough wood to survive the winter and then put in a small cash crop next year. They started absolutely from scratch except for a hound or so and their guns. Somehow they had managed to keep their shotguns through the years of public dependence—Georgians are like that about hounds and guns.

BACK TO THE FARM?



URING these dark days of depression there is much talk among thoughtful persons in America over the feasibility of the Negro returning to the farm, from whence he trekked hopefully to the Southern and Northern urban centers during and after the World war.

There should be more discussion of this proposition, especially in those cities where there is a considerable unemployed Negro population subsisting precariously on the dole. Certainly the chances of a Negro obtaining food, clothing, shelter and wholesome recreation are not growing any better in our cities with the passage of time. Even more than the impoverished white worker he is becoming an authentic proletarian, without economic security or hope for anything better.

If by these conferences we can formulate some plan by which scores of thousands of these black paupers and dependents may become self-supporting and useful citizens on their own farms, we shall have gone a long way on the road

to solving our economic problem as a group. Any plan, however, must reckon with the fact that thousands of farms are being abandoned in all parts of the country because of high taxes and low prices for crops. How can the Negro returning to the farm defeat these inexorable economic forces that are driving millions away from rural areas and into the gilded vortex of the city?

We might with great profit study the history and development of agriculture in Denmark, Holland, Scandinavia and Ireland, where through producers' co-operative associations under intelligent, informed leadership, so much has been done to elevate the farmer to a position of security and independence realized by very few followers of agriculture and stock raising in the United States.

But in urging Negroes—or whites for that matter—to return to the soil, we must take care that only farmers are included. To send people to the farm who know nothing of farming or farm life is to create a sad situation, equal to our present problems in the cities. Useless people on a farm are as bad as useless people in the city.

SEP 1 1932

COTTON PRICE RISE CHEERS THE SOUTH

Farm Owners, However, Re-
quire 11 Cents a Pound to
Meet Their Basic Costs.

LESSON FOR THE TENANTS

Thousands Produce Own Food as
Credit Is Cut Off—Free World
Market Sought.

BY BERNHARD OSTROLEK.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Aug. 31.—

Many Raise Own Vegetables.

Moreover, the Negro farmer has
learned not to depend solely on his
cotton crop. It always was his cus-

tom when cotton sold as high as 42
cents, and early in 1929 it was still
20 cents. The continued drop in
prices since then, when it reached by
the low of 5 cents early last Spring,

has made for all the agonies of defla-
tion. Farmers throughout the South
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learned the years ago beat their
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gardening. Allspices, peppers, and
other vegetables are now as ubiq-

uitous as the chicken and the pig
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than 100 persons have been given
600 acres of land in the farm move-
ment, and "reckoned we should be
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Within three weeks they have
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Agriculture - 1932
Condition of.

Diversification Is Urged In South

Agricultural And Industrial Leaders Meet To Plan For Balanced Business

MACON, GA.
NEWS

DEC 22 1932

Filling the Farms

SO QUIETLY as not to be generally observed, a movement is now going on which may soon carry us a long way towards solving the problem of unemployment.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Nov. 28—(P)—A way to bring agriculture and industry to a common meeting ground in the South tonight was the subject of informal discussions among delegates arriving here for the opening of the Southeastern Economic Council tomorrow.

The banker, the merchant, the farmer and the manufacturer seeking to "blot out the 'no man's land' between agriculture and industry," strove to answer the question: "How?"

H. C. McRae, of Wilmington, N. C., president of the council which is convening in its first annual meeting, recently outlined a five point program as the probable answer and also the key to a balanced trade in the South.

"An immediate objective," said Mr. McRae in outlining his program, "is to blot out the 'no man's land' which exists in the South between industry and agriculture. It should never have existed and we must blot it out quickly for it is harmful to industry and agriculture."

Summed up Mr. McRae's program would mean diversification and making more self-sufficient the southeast; development and utilization of markets available; popularization of the manufactured and agricultural products, serve as a clearing house for successful methods and policies of industry, agriculture and trade and giving publicity that would make the other four possible.

Leaders from the retail, manufacturing and agricultural fields are included as speakers for the two day conference.

Howard E. Coffin, of New York, representing the textile industry; Gen. R. E. Wood, of Chicago, a retail merchant; Dr. L. M. Duncan, rector of Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn, representing agriculture; David R. Coker, of Hartselle, S. C., a seed merchant, and leaders from business and industry are among those who will discuss the problems before the council and their probable solution.

It may probably come as a surprise to the average citizen to know that within the past year in Alabama 15 00 persons have gone from the cities to the farms and in Georgia in a year and a half, the number is said to be approximately 30,000.

The figures for Georgia are given by Roy LeCraw, president of the Atlanta chamber of commerce, on the basis of a check of 75 counties. The chamber itself sent more than 75 families back to the farm this year with a supply of food and clothing to last them until the first crop was harvested. This organization now has 800 farms listed and 1,500 former farm families are registered with the chamber as desiring to return to the farm.

The statement as to Alabama is made by F. W. Gist, federal and state agricultural statistician.

The movement back to the farm began on a small scale in 1930, Mr. Gist said. This was the first year after the collapse of the stock market. In that year approximately 2,000 persons returned to the farm.

Declining employment in industry sent 10,000 persons back to the farm in Alabama in 1931, and during the present year the movement reached its peak with 6,000 families, averaging 5 persons each, moving from the cities and towns to the farms.

In Alabama at least two-thirds of the families are Negroes and most of the movement has been into the black belt in central Alabama, together with the farming area around Birmingham.

Some years ago, Mr. Gist pointed out there was a tremendous demand for industrial labor and Negroes went out of the black belt to Birmingham and other cities in large numbers.

Many of these have now returned. In some of the black belt counties there is not a vacant tenant house. Some have rented farms while many of them have contracted to buy

farms.

In many cases they have begun work with a minimum of equipment. The steer has made its appearance once more, not only because the first cost is low, but because this animal can be worked at the lowest cost per unit of energy that can be found.

Seth P. Storrs, state commissioner of agriculture, practically confirms all the statements made by Mr. Gist. He adds that none of these returned farmers are starving and that the smoke house on at least a large majority of Alabama farms is well filled.

Nobody pretends that the families who have been forced to return to the farm will enjoy many of the luxuries of life, but it is conceded that they will have plenty of whole some food, clothing and shelter, and, above all, will be eliminated as a charge on the charity of cities and town.

In thus relieving the industrial centers from the burden of supporting them, it is true economy to give the farmers a stake which will last them until the first crop is gathered. This idea is gaining general recognition.

The 45,000 persons in Alabama and Georgia who have thus returned to the farm have hardly made an impression on the vast amount of idle acres in these two states. To a greater or less extent this condition exists all over the South and to some extent in New England and the Far West. The soil can still absorb literally millions of the unemployed.

Where the movement has been financed, as by the Atlanta chamber of commerce, it is made a condition precedent that the head of the family should have had some experience in farming. But it is easy to exaggerate the importance of this experience under present day conditions. Nearly every county has its farm agent and the state and federal departments of agriculture have a vast amount of information ready for distribution as to every line of activity on the farm.

A man would have to be mighty dumb if he could not win at least a simple living from the soil, with all the present day aids available, even though he may have been a carpenter or a steamfitter in the industrial world.

Experience seems to be proving that this is one movement which is well entitled to the greatest possible encouragement.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
JOURNAL & TIMES

DEC 19 1932

BACK TO FARMS

In 1910 rural population in the United States reached its peak, that is, there were more people upon the farms in that year than there had ever been before or since.

Since 1910 the farm population has been steadily dwindling and city population increasing. That is, it had been doing so until the panic hit the country three years ago. During the past three years the movement back to the farm has set in in such force that within that period the farms have gained in numbers all they had lost during the previous 20 years.

The depression is regarded as the direct cause for this movement back to the country, because thousands of people who had sought to make their way in the cities felt that in time of distress the farm was the more dependable place to insure getting something to eat.

In the South we have had this movement reversed in unusual fashion, and in many sections it has caused some serious complications. In the early 20's the negroes in the South began to move off the farms in such numbers as to cause serious concern. These negroes went to industrial centers in the North where wages were high and where there was continued demand for workmen.

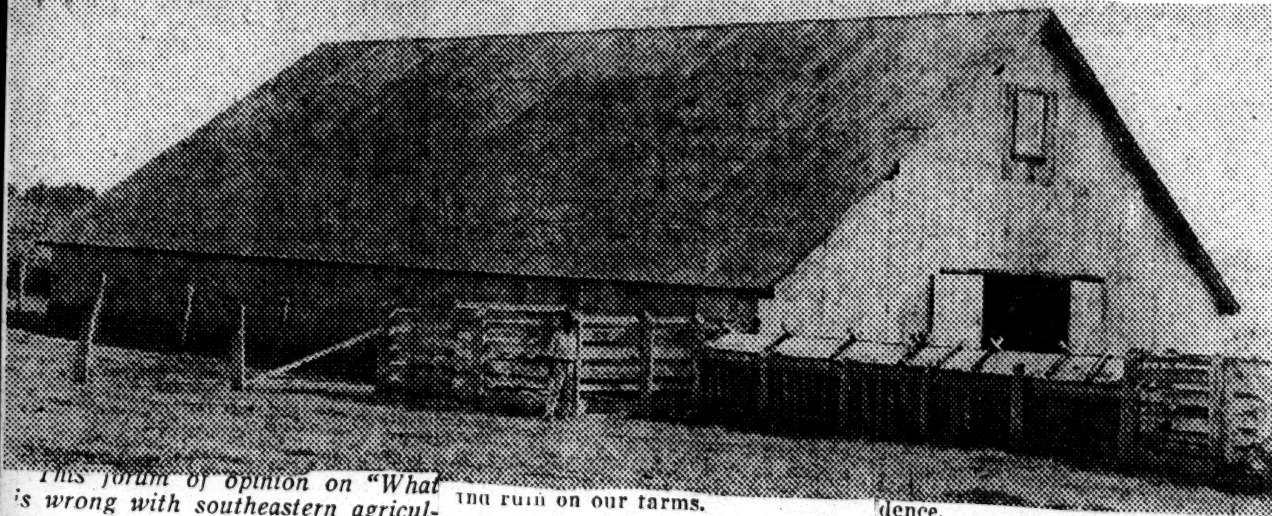
It was a bonanza for them while it lasted, but it could not last. When work failed these negroes in new and strange surroundings were first to feel the pinch of the hard times and received least consideration from relief agencies. The result was that wherever possible they made their way back to the country from which they had come in the thought that they were getting back among their friends. But in many communities their return was resented by negroes who had remained on the farm and who now felt that they might

be displaced by these stronger and more daring spirits who had made their journey back has become a matter of serious concern into the outside world. The result has been among the white friends of the race. There has been a good deal of friction and trouble among negroes. Not much has been published about it, but the feeling among stay-at-home negroes and those returning

Condition of.

What Is Wrong With Southern Agriculture And What Is the Remedy for Its Ailments?

A Forum of Opinion Conducted by HIRAM R. ROMANS,
Editor of The Southern Cultivator.



This forum of opinion on "What is wrong with southeastern agriculture, and what is the remedy for its ailments?" is not intended to be just a space-filling feature, but a real inquiry into one of the most vital subjects of the present time, the ultimate object of which is to discover the road to prosperity for the progressive farmer.

The troubles that beset one farmer may not affect another, and what may assist one, may not help another. In a free expression of opinion by those who from experience or observation are competent to advise ways may be discovered to assist all and real leadership developed.

If you do not agree in whole or in part with what has been said heretofore, or if you disagree with what is said in the appended communications, you are invited to state your ideas on the subject.

JORDAN TRACES DECADENCE OF SOUTHERN AGRICULTURE

Editor The Constitution: I read with much interest the splendid article by H. R. Romans, editor Southern Cultivator, published in The Constitution, on "What Is Wrong With Southern Agriculture and What Is the Remedy for Its Ailments."

I have lived through the periods of universal prosperity in Georgia when the price of cotton was no higher than it is today, and when every farmer depended upon his own efforts without crop lien or farm mortgages, until this ghastly period of enslavement to cotton and the credit system which has left a trail of disappointment, wreck

and ruin on our farms.

To ascertain and analyze the historical facts leading up to the present decadence of agriculture in Georgia and the other cotton states, we must turn back the records for 50 years. Taking Georgia as an illustration, the expansion of new railway lines in the 80's called for the building of new towns and enlargement of those in existence along their rights of way, and the increase in movement of freights.

About the same time the Georgia legislature enacted the crop lien and farm mortgage laws. These two developments laid the foundation for the gradual overthrow of the independent, prosperous and contented farm life in this state.

Along in the 80's also came representatives of an eastern concern soliciting farm mortgage loans at an interest rate, with commissions, of 20 per cent per annum, from a people whose farms had been free of such incumbrances.

Farm credits, both on crops and lands made for the purpose of buying food and feed supplies in towns, that were imported from other states, were rapidly extended.

Thousands of young and middle aged farmers began the movement from their rural homesteads and migrated to the near by towns to engage in merchandising, banking and other lines of local business.

This drafting of the best element of our farm life into the towns along the railway lines established the first milestone of our agricultural decadence.

dence.

The more prosperous land owners moved to town to enlarge their social surroundings, improve home conveniences, secure better educational advantages for their children and to increase their annual incomes from merchandising, banking, etc.

Their country homesteads and lands were turned over largely to the occupancy and squalor of inferior negro tenants, who were expected to pay rentals in cotton, buy their food and feed supplies from their landlord merchants and liquidate their indebtedness for such supplies with cotton.

The cotton crop lien mortgage system became a fixture and with the rapid movement of landlords to town, tenantry was rapidly increased. With this marked increase of inefficient tenantry, farm homesteads became depleted and broken down, the fertile cultivated lands went to waste by erosion and careless, indifferent culture.

The average tenant has neither the disposition or incentive to improve the lands they cultivate under such a system. They are largely a shiftless, gypsy-inclined class, living from hand to mouth, always ready to move, and but few of them accumulating anything after the year's rents and credits for supplies are paid from the small average crops of cotton they grow per family.

Supervision of negro tenantry is imperative as that of hired wage labor on the farm, but this is not given by absentee landlords.

Increase of Farm Mortgages. Following fast upon the heels of the eastern concern other insurance and farm mortgage companies actively began the solicitation of farm mortgages until it became a highly organized, profitable business to the lenders for years.

In 1915 federal land banks and

joint stock land banks were created and entered the competition of making long-term loans to farmers, with the result that about 85 per cent of the farms are now blanketed with these mortgage loans.

Today there are fully 60,000 totally abandoned farms in Georgia and approximately 75 per cent of the farmers left are tenants or share croppers.

I feel that I am safe in saying that the downfall of farming in Georgia can be attributed, first, to absentee landlords; second, easily available credits; and third, the production of cotton at the expense of food and feed crops needed on the farm.

Before the days of crop lien and farm mortgages no food and feed products were imported into the state. Every farmer realized the responsibility of making his farm self-sustaining by growing ample food and feed supplies.

Under that system of safe and sound farming every farmer could, and did, stand, four square before the world, independent and contented upon his own domain and unfettered by land mortgages or crop liens.

In losing or discarding the safe methods of farming, the population of the state has largely become tenants and paupers, practically, in the midst of good lands, superior climatic conditions and abundant demand for every variety of home-grown products.

Maintaining Cotton Industry.

Not only can every farm in this state be made independently self-sustaining from the standpoint of food and feed, but the entire Georgia population can be largely supplied with the best of home-grown products and the full quota of cotton production maintained.

The growing of cotton should and must continue to be the main staple and money income crop of Georgia and the south. But there must be adopted economic reforms in production, and especially in the present primitive and wasteful system of baling which causes millions of dollars' loss to the growers every year. High density gin compression will quickly solve the problem of waste in baling and excessive tare.

The question of rehabilitation under existing conditions is a serious one and calls for the best thought and co-operation of landowners and leaders in all lines of industry to solve the problems of economic return to prosperous agriculture.

Farmers' Helpless Condition.

The farmers in their helpless condition generally, need the best practical and efficient leadership that can be assembled. The various agencies of expensive governmental aid and co-operation in the field of agriculture for the past 30 years has been disappointing, while the very costly efforts of federal farm relief in the past few years have only added to the disasters of extreme governmental paternalism and nation-wide depression.

Undoubtedly landowners on the farm and thousands who are absent must give more and better managerial control of their lands and the crops they are to produce.

The landowners in every county should be fully organized upon the

county unit basis for co-operative effort in rebuilding farm life; improving the soil with leguminous crops; encourage the planting of diversified food products; adopting the intensive system of culture; reforestation; expanding live stock production; dairying and solving the economic problems of co-operative buying and marketing.

The lost art of sane and safe farm practices must be revived and applied intelligently, efficiently and energetically to the millions of acres of land under cultivation in this state.

Georgia farmers must cease to live on the food supplies shipped into the state each year in thousands of carloads from the graineries and packing houses of the west.

The cotton farmer must learn to produce the same number of bales on one-half to one-third of the acreage now planted in the staple. Food and feed supplies must be grown on the farm where consumed, or credits to stand, four square before the world, independent and contented upon his own domain and unfettered by land mortgages or crop liens.

The intensive system of culture must be adopted, restricting the present excessive acreage planted per safe methods of farming, the population of the state has largely become tenants and paupers, practically, in the midst of good lands, superior climatic conditions and abundant demand for every variety of home-grown products.

As marketing and distributing facilities are developed by the co-operation of our business interests in each county, many farmers can profitably increase their acreage for staple foods and have them delivered into the centers of population for consumption.

In 1840 Georgia was recorded as the second largest live stock producing state in the nation, being only exceeded by Tennessee. From the mountains to the seaboard the natural advantages for raising every variety of live stock at the most economic cost, are ideal and not exceeded by any other state in the Union.

The extension of the dairy industry and manufacture of cheese await only the trained ability of expert dairymen. The millions of acres of farmlands now lying dormant or broken by erosion and poor culture should be reforested in slash pine or other timber.

These wasted lands which are now a liability on their owners and the state can be redeemed by reforestation and in two short decades begin to pay splendid dividends on their improved market values.

The next congress should speedily enact laws to check the wholesale foreclosures of farm mortgages, which has dispossessed more than a million farm owners in the past five years throughout the United States, a large portion of whom are in Georgia and other cotton states.

Farmers must have relief from excessive high interest rates paid on banking and mortgage credits. In practically every European country the farm rates of interest are not permitted to exceed 3 per cent per annum. State legislatures must reduce the taxes on farm lands and chattels which have so largely increased in the past 20 years.

The farming industry must have state and federal protection during this period of intense depression in the market values of all staple farm products until these markets are re-adjusted to higher levels and the growers are in a better position to

meet their obligations. No state or nation can survive under a condition of farm tenantry or peasantry. Until agriculture is rehabilitated there can be no permanent prosperity in all lines of business and industry. There are not too many farmers, but there is clearly an excessive acreage in land being inefficiently cultivated by a majority of those on the farm. Their opportunity for profits in the field of production is

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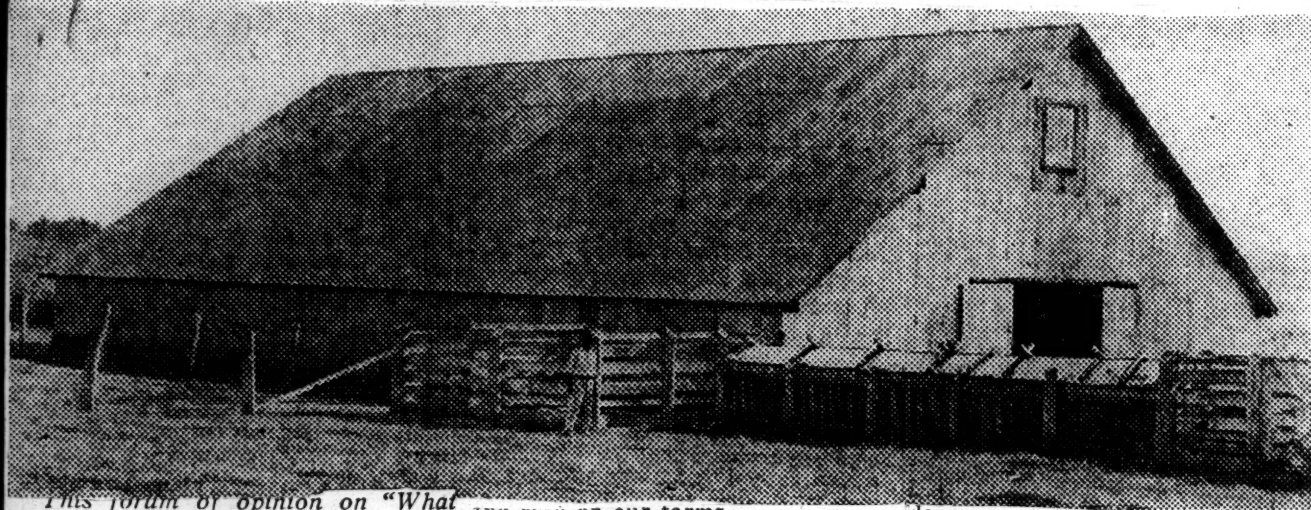
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Condition of.

What Is Wrong With Southern Agriculture And What Is the Remedy for Its Ailments?

A Forum of Opinion Conducted by HIRAM R. ROMANS,
Editor of The Southern Cultivator.



This forum of opinion on "What is wrong with southeastern agriculture, and what is the remedy for its ailments?" is not intended to be just a space-filling feature, but a real inquiry into one of the most vital subjects of the present time, the ultimate object of which is to discover the road to prosperity for the progressive farmer.

The troubles that beset one farmer may not affect another, and what may assist one, may not help another. In a free expression of opinion by those who from experience or observation are competent to advise ways may be discovered to assist all and real leadership developed.

If you do not agree in whole or in part with what has been said heretofore, or if you disagree with what is said in the appended communications, you are invited to state your ideas on the subject.

JORDAN TRACES DECADENCE OF SOUTHERN AGRICULTURE

Editor The Constitution: I read with much interest the splendid article by H. R. Romans, editor Southern Cultivator, published in The Constitution, on "What Is Wrong With Southern Agriculture and What Is the Remedy for Its Ailments."

I have lived through the periods of universal prosperity in Georgia when the price of cotton was no higher than it is today, and when every farmer depended upon his own efforts without crop lien or farm mortgages, until this ghastly period of enslavement to cotton and the credit system which has left a trail of disappointment, wreck

and ruin on our farms.

To ascertain and analyze the historical facts leading up to the present decadence of agriculture in Georgia and the other cotton states, we must turn back the records for 50 years.

Taking Georgia as an illustration, the expansion of new railway lines in the 80's called for the building of new towns and enlargement of those in existence along their rights of way, and the increase in movement of freights.

About the same time the Georgia legislature enacted the crop lien and farm mortgage laws. These two developments laid the foundation for the gradual overthrow of the independent, prosperous and contented farm life in this state.

Along in the 80's also came representatives of an eastern concern soliciting farm mortgage loans at an interest rate, with commissions, of 20 per cent per annum, from a people whose farms had been free of such incumbrances.

Farm credits, both on crops and lands made for the purpose of buying food and feed supplies in towns, that were imported from other states, were rapidly extended.

Thousands of young and middle aged farmers began the movement from their rural homesteads and migrated to the near by towns to engage in merchandising, banking and other lines of local business.

This drafting of the best element of our farm life into the towns along the railway lines established the first milestone of our agricultural deca-

dence.

The more prosperous land owners moved to town to enlarge their social surroundings, improve home conveniences, secure better educational advantages for their children and to increase their annual incomes from merchandising, banking, etc.

Their country homesteads and lands were turned over largely to the occupation and squalor of inferior negro tenants, who were expected to pay rentals in cotton, buy their food and feed supplies from their landlord merchants and liquidate their indebtedness for such supplies with cotton.

The cotton crop lien mortgage system became a fixture and with the rapid movement of landlords to town, tenantry was rapidly increased. With this marked increase of inefficient tenantry, farm homesteads became depleted and broken down, the fertile cultivated lands went to waste by erosion and careless, indifferent culture.

The average tenant has neither the disposition or incentive to improve the lands they cultivate under such a system. They are largely a shiftless, gypsy-inclined class, living from hand to mouth, always ready to move, and but few of them accumulating anything after the year's rents and credits for supplies are paid from the small average crops of cotton they grow per family.

Supervision of negro tenancy is as imperative as that of hired wage labor on the farm, but this is not given by absentee landlords.

Increase of Farm Mortgages.

Following fast upon the heels of the eastern concern other insurance and farm mortgage companies actively began the solicitation of farm mortgages until it became a highly organized, profitable business to the lenders for years.

In 1915 federal land banks and

joint stock land banks were created and entered the competition of making long-term loans to farmers, with the result, that about 85 per cent of the farms are now blanketed with these mortgage loans.

Today there are fully 60,000 totally abandoned farms in Georgia and approximately 75 per cent of the farmers left are tenants or share croppers.

I feel that I am safe in saying that the downfall of farming in Georgia can be attributed, first, to absentee landlords; second, easily available credits; and third, the production of cotton at the expense of food and feed crops needed on the farm.

Before the days of crop lien and farm mortgages no food and feed products were imported into the state. Every farmer realized the responsibility of making his farm self-sustaining by growing ample food and feed supplies.

Under that system of safe and sound farming every farmer could, and did, stand, four square before the world, independent and contented upon his own domain and unfettered by land mortgages or crop liens.

In losing or discarding the sane and safe methods of farming, the farming can become tenants and paupers practically, in the midst of good lands, superior climatic conditions and abundant demand for every variety of home-grown products.

Maintaining Cotton Industry.

Not only can every farm in this state be made independently self-sustaining from the standpoint of food and feed, but the entire Georgia population can be largely supplied with the best of home-grown products and the full quota of cotton production maintained.

The growing of cotton should and must continue to be the main staple and money income crop of Georgia and the south. But there must be adopted economic reforms in production, and especially in the present primitive and wasteful system of baling which causes millions of dollars' loss to the growers every year. High density gin compression will quickly solve the problem of waste in baling and excessive tare.

The question of rehabilitation of existing conditions is a serious one and calls for the best thought and co-operation of landowners and leaders in all lines of industry to solve the problems of economic return to prosperous agriculture.

Farmers' Helpless Condition.

The farmers in their helpless condition generally, need the best practical and efficient leadership that can be assembled. The various agencies of expensive governmental aid and co-operation in the field of agriculture for the past 30 years has been disappointing, while the very costly efforts of federal farm relief in the past few years have only added to the disasters of extreme governmental paternalism and nation-wide depression.

Undoubtedly landowners on the farm and thousands who are absent must give more and better managerial control of their lands and the crops they are to produce.

The landowners in every county should be fully organized upon the

county unit basis for co-operative effort in rebuilding farm life; improving the soil with leguminous crops; encourage the planting of diversified food products; adopting the intensive system of culture; reforestation; expanding live stock production; dairying and solving the economic problems of co-operative buying and marketing.

The lost art of sane and safe farm practices must be revived and applied intelligently, efficiently and energetically to the millions of acres of land under cultivation in this state.

Georgia farmers must cease to live on the food supplies shipped into the state each year in thousands of carloads from the graineries and packing houses of the west.

The cotton farmer must learn to produce the same number of bales on one-half to one-third of the acreage formerly planted in the staple. Food and feed supplies must be grown on the

farm where consumed, or credits to farming every farmer could, and did, stand, four square before the world, independent and contented upon his own domain and unfettered by land mortgages or crop liens.

The intensive system of culture must be adopted, restricting the present excessive acreage planted per acre, so that the land in cultivation can be more liberally fertilized, better cultivated and the yields per acre increased.

As marketing and distributing facilities are developed by the co-operative of our business interests in each county, many farmers can profitably increase their acreage for staple foods and have them delivered into the centers of population for consumption.

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make 20 to 40 bushels of corn and 500 to 600 pounds of lint cotton per acre. Cotton will not show a profit when you hit such years as we have had for the past three years you will lose your farm if you haven't got some money hid out.

The trouble, as I see it, is the low selling price of products and never being able to tell what you are going to get for your crop until it is made, and, too, one is never sure of the

LOW PRICES FOR PRODUCTS ARE RUINING THE FARMERS. Editor Constitution: I have farmed for 40 years (have plowed myself) and plant more crops of all kinds than the average farmer. I never buy hay, meat or syrup. Keep cows, and my family is able to get for your crop until it is made, and, too, one is never sure of the

being absorbed in low acre yields that even good market prices will not pay Atlanta, Ga.

The causes which have produced the effects of agricultural decadence in Georgia and the other cotton states are known in glaring facts, and the ed for 40 years (have plowed myself) and plant more crops of all kinds than the average farmer. I never buy hay, meat or syrup. Keep cows, and my family is able to get for your crop until it is made, and, too, one is never sure of the

There are not too many farmers, proper rehabilitation of the industry will require the best leadership in the country, practical measures of sound adoption of those on which will gradually work out the problems which are at present so serious. With 500 pounds of guano and 100 pounds of soda I can

make 20 to 40 bushels of corn and 500 to 600 pounds of lint cotton per acre. Cotton will not show a profit when you hit such years as we have had for the past three years you will lose your farm if you haven't got some money hid out.

Another thing—we pay too much interest. We cannot get away from cotton until we change our banking methods. When we get money in March and have to pay it back in October, cotton is our only hope—the only thing you can sell in any amount to pay your notes. We are lost if the prices on what we sell are not raised to where we can get some profit to make repairs, buy tools, pay taxes and insurance and buy shoes and clothes.

**LIVE AT HOME AND LET
COTTON BE A SURPLUS CROP.**

The farmer should put on a campaign of soil improvement by sowing peas, vetch, clover and all nitrogen-producing plants, growing feed stuff for both man and beast. Let his cotton crop be a surplus, then the farmer will have some money regardless of price of cotton; second, by planting a crop of long-staple variety of cotton and avoiding too much commercial fertilizer.

The bankers should lend financial aid to all businesses as factors. Railways should cut all freight rates and passenger rates, so that other ways of transportation may be improved.

Cornelia, Ga.

SAYS TROUBLE EXTENDS OVER LARGE PART OF GLOBE.

G. W. LA MAND

The barn shown in the upper picture is one of several good, substantial structures on Colonial Plantation, near Leesburg, Ga. It is not a fancy show building, but is well built of good lumber for utility purposes, and did not cost a large sum of money. It is painted and surrounded by a clean yard which is well fenced. Such a structure could be built by any carpenter or farmer who is handy with tools. The lower picture shows a ramshackle building on a south Georgia farm in which a tenant might house his mule or other live stock, if he chanced to have any. The apparent attitude of landlords, that any makeshift shelter is good enough for a tenant simply aids the trend downward in southern farm conditions.

ern farm conditions.

A Forum of Opinion Conducted by HIRAM R. ROMANS,
Editor of The Southern Cultivator.

many times in the past, innumerable bills designed by their authors to cure the ills of agriculture, have been dumped into the legislative hopper, and once more farmers of the nation turn their hopes toward Washington, trusting that out of this multitude of agricultural remedies will come something that will provide the long-sought "farm relief."

There are thousands of farmers throughout the southeast who, while quite willing to accept any good fortune that may come to the farming industry, are not relying upon any universal panacea. They are providing their own farm relief by practicing the fundamental principle of farming, which is food and feed for their families, and feed for their stock—the work stock that helps them in growing crops and the animals and poultry that contribute to the supply of food, with a small surplus that brings in some cash.

class of that element of farmers; the by providing them with a milk cow, a brood sow and a small flock of chickens, and by requiring the tenant to produce feed for this small amount of stock and garden truck for his family he could, after a time, completely eliminate that ancient debt-creating method known as "furnishing."

The tenant or cropper who made little or no effort to secure the full benefit of these advantages should be promptly told to move on. The only way in which better tenants and croppers can be developed is to search for the best, and having found them make it worth their while to become still better.

r. Thousands of farmers have become involved in debt through loans for seeds and fertilizers, when the debt could have been avoided and the output increased by the use of modern tools and proper farming methods.

As regard fertilizers it is high time the average southeastern farmer should awake to the fact that his soil

griculture
y for Its Ailments?
M. R. ROMANS,
Editor.

has become so depleted of the natural elements of plant growth, not supplied by commercial fertilizer, that he must begin to use nature's method of building up his soil, for the time is not far distant when even the best commercial fertilizer will fail to produce a crop. That involves the disk-ing of stubble and stalks left by crops as soon in the fall as possible, and planting one of the many legumes, suitable to the particular locality, to turn under in the spring, and supplemented by manure gathered from barns and sheds. Work, yes; expense, yes. But in the end entirely justified, and tenants should be required to take an interest in soil building instead of soil destruction, as now obtains. The expense incurred in buying seed every year is to a great extent unnecessary, though almost a universal custom. Starting with good seed, and farming properly, every farmer should be able to produce his own seeds of all kinds. Again, work, yes; expense, very small—nothing as compared with annual outlay that causes many to mortgage their crops to the government in a seed loan.

The average annual amount of cash paid farmers of the south for cotton and cotton seed, over a five-year period, 1925 to 1929, was \$1,460,000,000, government figures. It is estimated by competent persons that in the same period the south imported an average of \$1,000,000,000 worth of food and feed every year. At least \$750,000,000 of that sum should have been kept in the south if the food and feedstuffs had been home-grown and we had markets to handle the products of our farms. Prosperity will come to the south when this condition is brought about.

AGGRESSIVE AGRICULTURE FOR GEORGIA IS ADVOCATED.

Editor Constitution: This page is
The Constitution is of more impor-
tance to the rank and file of Georgi-
a people than national problems such
as beer or allied debts. It's a great da-

when a newspaper pretends to dis-
solve or analyze the base of our
wealth—agriculture, because for a few
pennies invested in seeds, plus work
it makes dollars; the work extended
feeds the hungry and clothes the
masses, yet this promising work has
been met at the crossroads and marked
"failure."

The proof of the downswing of this industry can be shown by our broken robbing plants, banks and retail stores, together with the unfortunates found in our cities asking for food, many of them farm laborers cut off from their work by inactive agriculture, and thousands of southern farmers have been forced to cut down their crops and fire their workers in a drastic effort to save their farms.

While the condition in Georgia is no worse than in Tennessee, at the same time unless we wake up to the tragedy our lands will be hunting grounds, while the aggressive west sends us our food and prospers as the promised land.

We have millions of people within a few hours' ride, but what do they eat? Have we trailed the markets to see? Do we know their preferences, and what should we be doing with thousands of producers all growing the same or similar crops? Why, of course, we should use every institution in the state to find our natural markets and if it be frog legs or pomegranates we should produce them.

The most common grounds of complaint are, of course, the cotton and grain markets, together with low prices on live stock. In this we have ample room for improvement, but the cashmere of these items will attract until new ways or crops are found. A large part of the Georgia farmers' incomes are from small crops that national markets do not affect, yet how many groups of farmers are meeting at least once a week to make an agreed price—their goods should be sold according to worth during next week. Or is the price left to anyone who dares to bid? Is there any place where work is being done to steady the market? Plenty of goods are sold for 50 cents a bushel while demand is willing to pay \$1. Of course it is the ambition of all men to cut the price on any item, but in most of commercial life there is a cost mark that ends the cut. In most farm life the cut knows no cost figure and the cut goes on to ruin, with apparently no plan of the farmers or the state to stop it.

Another part of farm venture open for question is transportation. Before the use of speed wagons the crops were bought or sold by country merchants, and while this plan wasn't the ideal, yet it has proved to be as good to the farmers as our new mode of selling with every farmer acting as a sales manager of his own crops. Of course when the distance to market was overcome and the farmer could break his tie-up with the country seller it was conceded by experts that our farm people could put the fires under production and make a killing, but this has not been the case. The merchant had a better knowledge of the market and the theory of getting to market quickly has developed into a race with sharp peddlers taking the goods from the farmer at below the market to sell at the most profit it will stand. In north Georgia territory this practice has ruined our peach and strawberry growers.

In commercial life if a manufac-

Agriculture - 1932 II.

Condition of.

It's true we have been looking toward Washington, D. C., expecting them to answer our problem. They have ~~been our only hope~~ ^{been our only hope} ~~to solve our problems~~ ^{to solve our problems} ~~begin to cast our eyes toward the Georgia capitol and the new governor, Eugene Talmadge. He knows the problem and the entire citizenship should back him to put over the big job. In the days ~~when~~ ^{when} the states went to war for a principal; today they must fight for the existence of their people.~~ It has been 40 years since Georgia has had a dirt farmer for governor, and if, like the story of Rip Van Winkle, we have slept 40 years and now we awake, let us have one ambition and that is—aggressive agriculture for Georgia.

RAYMOND STIMPSON.
Chattanooga, Tenn.

WOULD DEFLATE VALUE OF OUR MEDIUM OF EXCHANGE.

Editor Constitution: In response to your request asking for opinion on "What is wrong with southern agriculture?" if my experience counts for anything I should be helpful in a diagnosis, as my operation began in 1898 and has been continued ever since, although it looks as if it will end in 1932.

Farmers are made up of all classes of people from the most ignorant to the most cultured, one class making about as big success or failure as the other. The competition of the ignorant means the downfall of the more learned and vice versa.

Our government experts, demonstration agents and others have been stressing diversification for the past few years. In some cases this has been unwisely practiced, and in many instances has caused a complete loss of energy and money. Now that our basic commodities are below the cost of production it is time for the "big writers" to quit preaching "back to the farm" and advocate government purchases and reforestation of man of our less productive farms, before the government is broke taking over railroads that will soon be obsolete.

Generally speaking the lands of our southern states are particularly adapted for cotton production, and since the advent of the boll weevil our cost of production has been increased 30 per cent, and as I see it the only way for us to ever retrieve our monopoly on cotton is for congress to pass a "holiday bill" disguised as a quarantine act. Scientists tell us the elimination of one crop will destroy the weevil; certainly this is better than for us to continuously waste our energy and impoverish our lands and finally become charges of the state. I can produce cotton profitably at 5 cents a pound with no weevil and with him the cost is 15 cents to 20 cents a pound.

There are other national laws that I think agriculture should have the benefit of; one is to deflate the value of our medium of exchange. With its present valuation the farmer has to pay \$5 to cancel \$1 worth of debt, especially if the debt is two years old. With a deflation you would see capitalists rush for investment, even in land that is visible and taxed in

out profit. Abolish the land mortgage system and restore the lands back to the people, where they should belong. The present private industrial system ought to be abolished and a more sane system organized; one that will function for all the people alike; one that will give equal rights to all and everybody a chance to eat bread by the sweat of their own faces.

J. A. THOMPSON.
Oneonta, Ala.



HOGS AND DAIRY CATTLE ON GEORGIA FARM.

The economical manner in which W. A. Akins, Statesboro, Ga., farmer produced hogs and dairy cattle won him the district prize in the 1930 profitable farming contest and the county prize in 1931. He was disqualified for the 1931 district prize on account of winning it the year before, and he was only a few points behind the state winner in 1931. With the cuts he has made in his expenses he is one of the leading candidates for the state 1932 prize. Mr. Akins had 43 hogs from a group of litters containing 51 to live and they now average 200 pounds we each. These pigs were farrowed by five sows and one gilt. These same sows farrowed 47 pigs in July. Byron Dyer, special farm agent for that section, says "We are making every effort possible to stabilize farming in this section with the economical production of hogs, beef and dairy cattle."

MACON, GA.

TELEGRAPH

DEC 12 1932

Good Intentions Only

We are in for another helping of the farmer.

So much sympathy has been expressed by the candidate for office for the poor farmer who needs help that the farmer himself in some instances has actually come to the belief that he can be helped—that natural laws can be overcome by man-made affairs, and that we can make Dame Nature do her stuff, whether she wants to or not. Now, it's "allotment" after a five hundred million farm board fiasco!

It is difficult for us to realize that the farmer has been helped mighty nigh to death. But he has. A. F. Hodges, somewhere down in Sumter county, was in The Telegraph office a few days ago to urge that the United States government and the state governments be

persuaded to let the farmer alone. Mr. Hodges says he has been a member of the Georgia Legislature, which he states in order to show that he has given some thought to government in business. He has 1,600 acres of land, runs 30 plows, and doesn't owe any money—which he cites as another evidence of his being entitled to credit for good sense.

Mr. Hodges points out that the United States government has an agricultural department to which it appropriates \$300,000,000 per year. About half of this is used in promoting agriculture, as it is called—teaching farmers to make two blades of something grow where only one grew before. In addition to this, each state government has an agricultural department supported by taxes upon the farmer, to teach him how to grow more than ever before. Then there are the agricultural colleges, the experiment stations, and every conceivable scheme to increase the farmer's production and consequent competition with himself. In Georgia it is pointed out that in 1910 the average production of corn was seven bushels to the acre. This was far too little, but the present production is about 18 bushels to the acre. Here's 11 bushels average that have come into competition with every farmer in the country. And every farmer has done the same thing in other states, until today we have more farm surplus than the world has any use for, or than the world can buy.

In addition to the increase of every kind of commodity, every bit of it through urging and teaching by the governments, the farmer has spoiled his own play-house by running off the farm the only positive ever handy market he had for his farm surplus—the Negro and the mule. These have been displaced by man-saving and labor-saving machinery. Where the farmer used to have a fair market at his own front door for his commodities at least in the amount the Negro and the mule could eat, he now has a tractor and a flivver, neither of which will turn a wheel without actual money put out for their operation. No hog-meat can be offered to the machines that will make them go, and no amount of hay and corn will cause them to pull a plow or budge one inch. They demand high-class oil and gas from the West, and no wheat and oats can be swapped for a nut or bolt for either of them. When they have to have their cylinders tuned, it takes 47 bull yearlings to pay for the tuning. If it were a mule that had to be tuned, all that would be required would be to throw the corn and fodder to him, hitch him to the plow and holler gee or haw, and he would be on his way, with a corn-fed field hand at his heels—all produced and fed by the farm. These fancy

imported trucks and tractors demand that the farmer get money and send up to Detroit for the machines, and then forever get more money to send out to Alfalfa Bill to keep them running.

In addition to this destruction of his own market by the farmer, birth control is coming on apace, and there are fewer people to feed than ever before. While at the same time the governments are taxing the farmer to teach him how to increase his production, with the result that the price goes so low the farmer can't get his old prices. Increased production means increased competition—with himself—because 200 bushels of anything mean a lower price than 100 bushels.

Condition of
NEGROES ADVISED**TO PRODUCE FOOD**

Rally of Farmers Held in Washington County Addressed by
W. T. Anderson

SANDERSVILLE, Ga., Feb. 6.—What was declared to have been a successful conference of Negro farmers was held here Friday under the leadership of Thomas H. Brown, Negro agricultural agent in this county. The superior courtroom of the courthouse was stocked with exhibits of hay, grain, meat, canned goods and other products of the farms, and the audience consisted of about 300 Negro farmers and their wives. W. T. Anderson, of The Macon newspaper, was one of the many men who spoke during the day, being introduced by Gordon Chapman, of the Sandersville Progress.

Mr. Anderson stressed the fact that while farming conditions were regarded as generally bad, they were not half so bad as were those in the city, where bread lines were being maintained to furnish a plate of soup to unemployed people, and Salvation Army headquarters and city jails had to be used to provide them with shelter. He pictured the contentment and pleasure a man had in life if he had his own land, his own house, plenty to eat—even if he did not have any money—as against the man who had none of these things and had to depend upon somebody giving him a job so that he might live from day to day.

Food on Farms

"And when things get so in town," said Mr. Anderson, "that we can't make a living there, everyone has in his mind the purpose to come out here in the country and live with you farmers. There just isn't anything else to be done when that condition develops. You have contentment, but no money, while we of the city have neither. And contentment is something you cannot buy with a million dollars, because you would be afraid somebody was going to take your money away from you—while your farm, owned and worked by you, makes you a sovereign richer than all the kings with mighty empires."

Mr. Anderson urged that cotton production be reduced and for his hearers to stay out of debt. He said the original farmer didn't have to borrow money to make a living, and it could be done again. He pointed out that the ordinary surplus of cotton in the world, the amount over and above what the world needed for making goods, was about three million bales, and in 1919 when that was the surplus cotton went to about 27 cents per pound. This year, he

stated, there was a probable surplus of over twenty million bales, and cotton is at six cents per pound. "Reduce the surplus, increase the price. Plant food before cotton, because if the price of cotton remains low the food can be eaten, but not cotton," he said.

He stressed the importance of raising more hogs, saying Georgia is buying five thousand per week right now at the Swift plants in Atlanta and Moultrie, and that the hog purchases in Georgia amounted to about a million and a half per annum, we raising only half of our needs. He had seven men to stand up on the platform while he told of how each one had to get a profit out of the Western hog before it was finally eaten in Georgia—each man taking a good slice out of it, and then the Georgia farmer taking what was left and paying for all that which had been taken by the profits.

Seven Get Cuts

Mr. Anderson had the first man to step out of line, and explained that this was the grower of the Western hog; that he required a profit, or at least a living, and he cut it off this hog coming to Georgia from there. The next was the broker who collected all the hogs and shipped them; he had to have a living, and the Georgia farmer must support him. Next was the railroad which hauled the hog to the packing plant, Kansas City, or St. Louis, or Chicago; the railroad had to have a profit, and it must be paid by the man who eats the hog. Next was the packer who did the killing and curing. Next was the railroad which hauled the hog down to Georgia. Next was the wholesaler who ordered the hog from the packers. Next was the retailer who sold him to the man who ate the hog.

"And," he said, "there are the seven men who cut your meat before you get it. No wonder your piece of meat is so small, whereas the hog that you raise in your own back yard or pen is all yours, and nobody cuts it but you. Are you going to continue to support these seven extra fellows and cry about hard times, or will you reduce expenses by cutting them out?"

The audience appeared profoundly impressed by the demonstration.

Greensboro, Ga., Herald-Journal
Friday, January 15, 1932

NEGRO LEADERS LAUNCH**"LIVE AT HOME" PROGRAM**

The colored leaders of Greene County are taking active steps toward helping their people to make a living on the farm. This is very commendable in these leaders, as they, better than anyone else, can organize the colored farmers, and inspire them to work and make good of the opportunities offered by farming during the present crisis.

Rev. William Jackson, pastor of the colored Baptist Church of Greensboro, and other churches in this county, is the originator of this movement. He was endorsed and assisted in making plans for the organization by a general committee of colored leaders as follows: Dr. C. M. Baber, C. L. Shank, Rev. Hamilton, Rev. C. C. English, Rev. Hicks, John Smith and Charlie Lewis. Rev. William Jackson was elected president of the movement, and Dr. C. M. Baber was elected secretary.

The principal purpose of this movement is to emphasize the importance of each family living at home, and to furnish inspiration, encouragement, and information that will put this movement over. In the language of Rev. Jackson: "Do your best with what you have. Let down your bucket where you are." There is plenty of land available, and it can make a living for all of the people in Greene County and some more besides, if the people will work it.

To offer encouragement and stimulate effort in beginning this important work, the committee will award prizes on January 1, 1933, as follows:

1—A prize to the family that takes first place in living at home; that is, the family that comes nearest to producing everything that they will need, such as wheat, corn, peas, potatoes, syrup, meat, lard, chickens, milk and butter.

2—A prize to the family that raises the largest amount of cured meat in proportion to the size of the family.

3—A prize to the family that raises the largest hog.

4—A prize to the family that has the best year around garden. Sanitary conditions and flower yards will be observed, and the community that is foremost in this development will receive a Banner of Honor.

Details concerning the amount of the prizes, and the number of places to be awarded in each class will be announced later, as the organization of the county is perfected.

The plan of organization is to have each community committee subscribe a chairman and a vice-chairman in for The Herald-Journal, and keep each community. These are to appoint ten helpers in each community to work with them in their respective communities. The duties of each committee composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and ten helpers, are to get the colored people of that community together, inspire and encourage them to do their best to make a good living on the farm, and to furnish such information as is necessary to enable each family to produce what is needed for this living. They will be expected to make a contact with each family, and urge them to join this movement to make what they need, and have a surplus of salable products for market. The appointment of committees in all communities of the county has not yet been completed, but is being carried on as rapidly as possible. The following community committee leaders have already been appointed:

Greshamville community—Rev. William Grenard, chairman; Mrs. Mattie Merritt, vice-chairman.

Woodville community—John Darden, chairman; Mrs. Sallie Jones, vice-chairman.

Union Point—M. W. Wingfield, chairman; Mrs. T. J. Ware, vice-chairman.

Jacksonville community—Asa Thomas, chairman; Essie Lewis, vice-chairman.

White Plains community—Rev. C. C. English, chairman; William Alexander, vice-chairman.

Eastover community—Robert B. Lewis, chairman; Mrs. Eva Shell, vice-chairman.

Siloam community—P. J. Champion, chairman; Mrs. Emma Davis, vice-chairman.

Veazey community—John Smith, chairman; Mrs. Samuel Reid, vice-chairman.

Greensboro community—Ed Johnson, chairman; Prof. A. L. Idlett, Vice-Chairman; A. B. Byrd.

Wrayswood community—Iverson Ward, chairman; Emma Edwards, vice-chairman.

Let each committee chairman get busy at once, and appoint ten helpers. Send their names and addresses to Dr. C. M. Baber, Greensboro, Ga., so they can be furnished with such information as will be available for promoting this great work.

We would advise, and urge, that we would advise, and urge, that the plan of organization is to have each community committee subscribe a chairman and a vice-chairman in for The Herald-Journal, and keep each community. These are to appoint ten helpers in each community to work with them in their respective communities. The duties of each committee composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and ten helpers, are to get the colored people of that community together, inspire and encourage them to do their best to make a good living on the farm, and to furnish such information as is necessary to enable each family to produce what is needed for this living. They will be expected to make a contact with each family, and urge them to join this movement to make what they need, and have a surplus of salable products for market. The appointment of committees in all communities of the county has not yet been completed, but is being carried on as rapidly as possible. The following community committee leaders have already been appointed:

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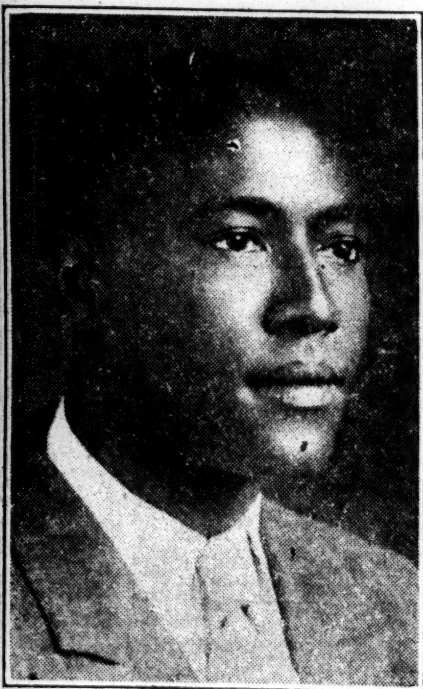
Siloam community—P. J. Champion, chairman; Mrs. Emma Davis, vice-chairman.

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Respectfully yours,
WILLIAM JACKSON, President
C. M. BABER, Secretary

MR. ROBERTS' RADIOS MESSAGE TO FARMERS

Wisconsin
Tells Wisconsinites His
Views of Rural Life



Word has been received here that Thomas N. Roberts, resident teacher-trainer at the Georgia State Industrial College and at present Rosenwald Fellowship student at the University of Wisconsin, was featured in a radio talk over WHA University of Wisconsin Broadcasting station, Friday, April 22.

Mr. Roberts along with 14 other representatives from the University of Wisconsin, recently attended the spring conference of the Student Section of The American Country Life Association at Iowa State College Ames, Iowa. His contributions to the discussions made a very favorable impression.

When the Wisconsin delegation returned, Mr. Roberts was selected to summarize his views of the conference in a radio talk during the farm and home hour program. Since the conference theme was "Basic Elements in Rural Life" or what's Right with Agriculture, Mr. Roberts selected for the subject of his summary, "A New Collegiate Attitude Towards Country Life."

NEGRO ADVISOR OUTLINES PLANS

Burke and Jenkins County Farmers to Increase Production to Meet Own Needs

MIDVILLE, Ga., June 24.—E. L. Cooper, Negro farm agent of Burke and Jenkins counties, has made a survey of 100 farms in this territory in order to determine the exact conditions and needs of renters, sharecroppers and owners. Some of his findings are given below:

Out of every 100 Negro families, 79 eat vegetables from the home garden less than four months during the year; 92 have less than eight hens on the farm; 81 buy meat and lard; 63 have no milk cows; 62 have to buy corn and other grains; 91 sell nothing off of the farm but cotton; eight were not able to pay their honest debts, and 18 are presently in a starving condition (some of them being furnished with food by generous and optimistic landlords).

Money Sent Away

The conditions cited above accounts, in a large measure, for the \$587,000 being sent out of the county for food and feeds that could be produced at home.

Cooper has also drawn up a development program for this group with goals to be accomplished within from one to five years. It is believed that this program will alleviate the existing conditions and that five years from now Negro farmers will have year-round gardens, good poultry, hogs, cows, and feed crops in sufficient quantities for farm maintenance.

Objectives Outlined

Some of the objectives included in this program are:

- Grow a year-round garden.
- Produce five bushels of corn for each person, 50 bushels for each mule, 20 bushels for each cow, 20 bushels for each hog, and one-half bushel for each hen on that particular farm.
- Produce two tons of hay for each head of livestock kept on that farm.
- Produce 85 pounds of meat and 30 pounds of lard for each person.
- Increase the number of hens sufficiently to supply each person with 50 pounds of poultry and 30 dozens of eggs per year.
- Produce enough milk for each person on the farm to have a quart per day.
- Provide for some cash from the surplus of supply crops in order to supplement that obtained from cotton.

Three of the leading Negro farmers in each community are being selected to demonstrate the best practices to follow with the eight leading enterprises (gardens, corn and small grain, forage, hogs, dairy cows, poultry, and cash crops) in order to make their farms self-supporting. Tours made up of Negro

farmers will be conducted to these projects so that the masses may see the results. Cooper was appointed by the College of Agriculture at Athens to encourage the "live-at-home program."

As Rural Negroes Prosper

IN Hancock County, in the heart of Georgia, a settlement of Negroes who for sixty years have owned and operated their own farms has just achieved a unique community center, the first of its kind, in the country. It is a commodious cabin built of logs hewn from the surrounding pine woods, with foundations, chimneys and fireplaces of native stone. Included in the attractive building are a large assembly room, a library and museum, kitchen, guestrooms and a wide, stone-paved veranda. The building was planned and constructed by the men of the neighborhood.

This Springfield community has long engaged the attention of persons, both colored and white, concerned with rural Negro life. By its own efforts it has steadily pulled itself out of primitive conditions. It now has a church with some four hundred members, and a five-teacher Rosenwald school with a shop building and a teacher of agriculture and of home economics.

Increase in Food and Field Crops by Negro Farmers

The food and feed crops grown by Negro farmers in Burke and Jenkins counties have been greatly increased this year according to E. L. Cooper, Negro Farm Agent. Despite the fact that they have grown principally cotton for the last fifty years and have not known very much about growing anything else they are learning and beginning to balance their farms with other crops that will insure them of a safer honest living.

This change is gradually being brought about by the influence of Farm Demonstration Agents and other agencies that are advocating the live-at-home program and the corresponding low price of cotton. Cooper states that although a large number of Negro farmers are still negligent about the garden, chickens, hogs, cows, and feed crops; the most thrifty of this group of farmers have increased these supply crops one-third percent and are really beating the depression.

Floyd Cox, near Gough, typical of a number of other successful Negro farmers, is setting the pace in this direction. He has now fifty acres of some of the best corn in the county. He only planted thirty acres last year. He sowed twelve acres for vine hay this year and not any

last year. He also planted forty acres of peas in corn-middles and one and one half acres of peanuts to be hogged off by his fall porkers.

Henry Sapp, R. F. D. Waynesboro is another of the large group of Negro farmers who are following this example. Sapp planted sixty acres of corn this year and only forty last year. Thirty-five acres of this corn has Velvet Beans and peas in each middle. No velvet beans were planted last year. He also planted eight acres to peanuts and sowed eight acres for hay this year and none of either last year. His family is eating fourteen vegetables from his garden and patches. Examples of these two farmers can be observed throughout the two counties.

Kitchen Waker, Munnerlyn; William Scruggs, R. F. D. Waynesboro; J. E. Brown, Herndon; C. W. Carpenter, Perkins; Robert Ellison, R. F. D. Waynesboro; Ben Sampson, Midville; and Otis Stephens, Gough, are only some of the other Negroes who are setting examples in living at home.

The most remarkable thing about these farmers is that they have produced their crops thus far on an average of less than one hundred dollars in cash per farm. This was made possible by oats, gardens and other early crops that were produced this year.

Barnesville, Ga., News-Gazette
Thursday, December 8, 1932

WHAT OUR COLORED FARMERS ARE DOING

By S. H. Lee
Agricultural Agent

These are indeed trying times, but no one should consider the case hopeless. During the last two days I have taken a swing around the county from Goggins to Johnstonville, to Liberty Hill, to near Orchard Hill, to Milner, to Barnesville, to Sugar Hill. In all this round I have seen two things very encouraging: lots of wheat planted and many farmers breaking land. On the above named trip I saw more than 20 plows turning land—some double, some single, but all getting ready to make another crop. This shows plainly that the people are not discouraged.

At a club meeting at Sugar Hill Monday night, there were 10 farms represented that had already planted wheat, an equal number had killed at least some meat, if not enough to do them. On this subject I'll have more to say later.

This is one of the most important subjects confronting the Georgia farmer today. In my three counties, Bibb, Lamar and Monroe, some headway has been made in the last three years. In this area, in 1930, 36 acres of vetch and Austrian peas were planted; in 1931, 38 acres were planted. So far this fall, through the constant hammering of the farm agent, we have got 22 acres of Austrian peas planted in Bibb county, 54 acres in Monroe and 83 acres in Lamar planted by the following men (all colored): Louis Merritt 2, Claude Smith 2, Henry Crawford 2, Ernest Willis 3, Ethel Dees 3, Jasse Holloway 3, Wesley Brady 2, Jim Brady 3, Robert O'Neal 2, Kelley O'Neal 2, Matt Bush 2, Rufus Floyd 2, John Flannagan 6, Sim Walker 8, Tommie Traylor 6, Elzie Wyche 4, Lillius Wyche 15, Bob Zellner 12, Walter Zellner 3. This gives a total of 159 acres for the three counties this fall for next year's crop.

It will be noted that our heaviest plantings are in and around Sugar Hill. This is because the superintendent, Mr. H. L. Smith, is determined to

Agriculture-1932

Condition of.

Barnesville, Ga. Gazette
Thursday, August 24, 1932

WHAT OUR COLORED FARMERS ARE DOING

By S. H. Lee
Agricultural Agent

MEETING AT MIDWAY CHURCH

TWO FARMS VISITED

Last Friday under the leadership of their agricultural agent, a small number of colored farmers of Monroe and Lamar counties made a special visit to the farms of Tim and Jesse Holloway. Those making the visit were Herbert Smith, of Culloden, Wesley Brady and two sons, Mingo Mays and wife, Tim and Jesse Holloway and three of their sons.

The crops of these two brothers are about as ideal as can be found in the county. Each made a good crop of oats and wheat. Each has a permanent pasture of carpet grass and lespedeza tall enough to mow right despite heavy grazing all spring and summer by cattle and work stock on idle days. Hogs in excellent condition. Each man's cotton crop is good as cotton goes this season. Both declare that their food and feed crops are the best they have ever had at this time of year, including corn, peas, potatoes, peanuts, sugar cane, sorghum, velvet and soy beans. On the day of our visit Tim had fully 15 bushels of peas ready for picking.

At a meeting of the Midway Live-at-Home club that afternoon the following reports were made: Wesley Brady, 60 acres of corn, 25 of which planted to velvet beans in full bearing, 3 acres in Matthews Improved soy beans that are lapping in the corn middles, 10 acres in peas and soy beans for hay, 1½ acres each of sweet potatoes and syrup canes, good hogs to kill, two good milk cows, two shotes, eight pigs and a fine yearling for sale, 150 hens and friers, a good fall garden of collards, cabbage, carrots, turnips, spinach, onions, snap and butter beans, 15 cords of wood already cut and 25

acres in cotton.

Jesse Holloway's report: 20 acres in corn (half in bottoms), 2 of sweet potatoes, 9 in peas (five varieties), 3 in velvet beans, 4 in soy beans, 1 acre in sorghum, ¼ acre in sugar cane, 18 in cotton. Of vegetables and small truck crops 26 varieties including collards, cabbage, turnips, tomatoes, okra, snap beans, butter beans, carrots, pepper, peanuts, rutabagas, rape, pumpkins, water melons, one acre of sun flowers for chickens to graze on, mung beans (also for chickens), and in season squash, cucumbers, lettuce, radishes and Irish potatoes.

From a small plot of Austrian Winter Peas he saved nearly 3 bushels of seed for fall planting-soil building. His land is very rolling in places, but his hillside ditches absolutely control the water. He says that he has discovered that without good ditches and terraces but little headway can be made at soil building.

His wife has been sick most of the year, and his 17-year-old daughter is the cook. So far this season she has canned and preserved 171 jars—pints and quarts—30 different varieties of fruits and vegetables, including black berries 28, dew berries 15, peaches 15, pears 2, snap beans 12, corn 4, of pickles beets 12, cucumbers 11, mixed 3, tomato 2, peach 6, plum 1, pear 1, of preserves peach 3, pear 2, figs 2, English peas 2, sour mixture 3, stuffed peppers 2, tomato catsup 1, okra 1, chow chow 1, carrots 1, hot relish 2, tomatoes 15, of jellies grape 5, dew berries 5, apple 15, and black berry jam 4. All these products are put up in glass jars and very attractive to look at—not at all a bad job for a mere girl, who got all her instructions from bulletins furnished by the agent, newspapers and magazines.

With this pantry, excellent crops growing and already harvested, 4 good hogs to kill, 2 cows milking, with fresh eggs and friers the year round, this man is truly living at home as are many other colored farmers in Lamar county. Holloway has been freely cooperating with the county agent over seven years. His two boys are good 4-H club members.

Georgia

Jessie G. Sentinel
Thursday, August 11, 1932

Vo.-Ag. Activities Of The Colored School At Screven

Through the effort of the Vocational Agricultural department of the Screven Industrial school of community canning campaign were organized in the early spring to combat Old Man Depression.

This movement had the backing and push-along of the Parent-Teacher Association, an adult organization which is the outgrowth of the school and has always since its inception been loyal and active. Besides canning vegetables from the garden, available fruits and blackberries have been canned and preserved.

The effort has been so pleasing that the P. T. A. staged an old fashioned community basket picnic to demonstrate the results from the undertaking and those who were privileged to embrace the table and partake of the many good things in evidence is a witness that our community is trying to kill the Old Man Depression.

The principal wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness to Dr. J. Lawton Tyre for encouraging words and a willingness to assist the movement. Vocational Agriculture is carried on at this school without any financial aid either from the County or Local Board of education and is not burdensome to the tax payer of the county. Out of the meager salary received from the Federal Board, a supply teacher is furnished and the up-keep of the building and surroundings are paid. The slogan is "Plant a real program instead of just drag a garden while it rains, and save hayging along in the old way. We are in the Sunshine." The principal feels that his utmost duty is to serve the people that has been the means of assisting him in acquiring a trained method of farming. It pays to serve. His home people. A people that know him and he them, so after all it is not a matter of salary but of SERVING.

Sparks, Ga. Journalite
Thursday, October 6, 1932

NEGRO FARMERS TO RAISE WHEAT FROM START GIVEN

The negro farmers of the Springfield community in this county have been allotted one hundred bushels of wheat by Mr. Clarence F. Reynolds, well known merchant and capitalist, which will be used as a revolving grain fund for the farmers of this section. Their lands will be carefully prepared during the next few weeks and the grain planted. After the grain is harvested next year each farmer will pay back into the storehouse the seed grain "loaned" to him until the entire hundred bushels has been paid back. Then other farmers will be given a start raising their own wheat. This is included in the scheme of things worked out by the promoters of the "Log Cabin" community at Springfield to teach the negro farmers how to live at home.

"COLORED MAN MAKES 20 BALES ON 33 ACRES"

Crawford Holley a colored man living about two miles south of Carnesville has already had 19 bales of cotton picked and will make about one and one-half bales more. We asked him how he did it and he said that he didn't have any more sense than to do what the County Agent said about planting, poisoning and cultivating. He also has enough corn, meat potatoes and etc., to feed his family and livestock until another crop was made. It is high time for people to start onings are paid. The slogan is "Plant a real program instead of just drag a garden while it rains, and save hayging along in the old way. We are living in a new day of diseases and that his utmost duty is to serve the people that has been the means of assisting him in acquiring a trained method of farming. It pays to serve. His home people. A people that know him and he them, so after all it is not a matter of salary but of SERVING.

back to his community.

E. K. DAVIS, County Agent.

What Is Wrong With Southern Agriculture And What Is the Remedy for Its Ailments?

A Forum of Opinion Conducted by HIRAM R. ROMANS,
Editor of The Southern Cultivator.

The basic, underlying cause of the vicissitudes that now beset southeastern agriculture antedate the security and commodity collapse that started in 1929; the bursting of the Florida bubble; the unwarranted loaning of huge sums of money abroad; investment in unsound bonds of foreign countries following the World War; the economic inflation that grew out of that period, and the depression of the past decades. All of these, together with the troubles that beset practically every country in the world, materially affect southeastern agricultural prosperity, but the real trouble may be traced to the indifferent and unbusiness-like methods that succeeded the ante-bellum plantation system of farming.

In the readjustments that eventuated following the War Between the States large and sometimes huge, acreages came into possession of persons who were not qualified by experience or business acumen to engage in practical farming and the problems involved. Colored farm laborers were free and could go where they chose; they had to be taken care of in some way, and as most of them desired to remain around the home plantation, the cropper system developed as an easy way to handle the problem.

The colored farm laborer was accustomed to being told what to do, and when there was no longer a master or an overseer who had the right to order him to do thus and so, he let nature take its course. He was accustomed to being provided for, and as he expected this to continue, it was done after a fashion. He cropped a certain number of acres to cotton, was "furnished," and turned in the required number of bales—maybe. If he did, well and good; if he didn't, there was nothing that could be done about it but to withdraw the provisions and the following year he had a similar experience elsewhere.

That thousands of these colored farm hands, or their sons, later grew out of the cropper class into tenants, finally acquired farms of their own, and prospered in the days when good farming was profitable, is to their credit, and demonstrates that thrift and good management counts for the individual who puts those virtues into practice, and the period matters little—then, now or in the future.

Classes of White Farmers.

Of the white small farmers there were, and still are, four classes—the intelligent, ambitious, thrifty, hard-working individuals, who by exercising good judgment, acquired farms of their own; the long-term tenant, who either lacks the ambition to become a farm owner, or as the result of reverse twists of fate that follows some individuals through life, is defeated in that desire; the short-term tenant, who is always looking for a generous landlord and a chance to get as much as possible without expend-

ing real energy and consistent effort; last the itinerant cropper, that irresponsible individual with the scooter plow, half-starved mule and large family of pitiable, helpless children, dependence upon whom has gone far in creating the troubles that now beset southeastern agriculture.

With such an agricultural set-up the owners of large tracts of land half a century ago were confronted by a fork of the road in agricultural endeavor: one appeared smooth and level, the other somewhat hilly and studded with rocks.

A business-like adaptation of the ante-bellum plantation farming methods was the hilly, rocky road that confronted southeastern agriculturists of that period. The section was independent, nothing being imported that could be produced, and cotton was not a part of diversified farming as it was practiced in those days.

It would have been possible to continue an adaptation of the old system that made each plantation independent of the outside world by requiring the original croppers to produce food and feedstuffs and maintain a certain amount of live stock and poultry. Had the large land owners put this system into operation, small land owners would have followed; local markets would have carried home-grown food and feedstuffs, both animal and vegetable, and instead of the southeast gradually growing into one of the greatest markets for imported necessities of life, in time it would have become an exporter.

Diversified farming and raising of live stock grows on the ambitious farmer once these activities are started; soil preservation would have been learned early and put into practice; land would have been fenced, the advantages of purebred live stock over the scrub would have been evident years ago, and cotton would have been just one of the crops produced—a source of ever-increasing wealth, instead of a lure to economic disaster.

Smooth Road Chosen.

It is unfortunate that what was apparently the smooth road was chosen, and quite naturally most of the small farm owners followed that choice. Cotton was easy to raise, and it brought a good price; whereas, vegetables, grain and forage were more difficult of production; it was so much easier to buy needed food and feed at the supply store than to raise it. Also, it gave the farmer more time to sit on his front porch and watch his cotton grow; and besides, the supply store merchant would wait until fall when the cotton was sold for settlement. Live stock was regarded as a nuisance, always requiring care to keep the animals from being diseased, and fences to keep them from wandering. So, in time, the southeast became indeed a land of cotton. The piney woods cow and razor-back hog became typical and derisive emblems of the section, chickens roosted in trees and hens laid their golden contribution in

the wilds of woods and tangles of briars and underbrush.

Huge acreage in cotton for cash; smaller acreages in corn, principally for the mules used in raising cotton, constituted a clean-cropping system, which, aided by erosion, soon depleted the soil, since no cover crops were planted in the fall to be turned under. It was a system that constantly took from the soil and returned nothing, and being unlike the widow's meal barrel, something had to be done about it.

That something took the form of commercial fertilizer, since it was so much easier to buy fertility in a sack than to plow the ground, plant a cover crop, then turn it under in the spring for green manure. Commercial fertilizer cost money, but what the difference? The fertilizer dealer would wait until fall for his pay, and the cotton crop in those days could be depended upon to balance everything, with a little left over.

But as the years passed sometimes things went wrong; maybe there was too large a crop of cotton, and the price dropped accordingly; maybe the indifferent croppers were too liberally "furnished," or failed to produce the stipulated allotments upon which the landowner depended for his total revenue; perhaps it wasn't a good cotton year, and despite the higher price per pound the total production when sold fell short of meeting all expenses.

Well, it was easy to borrow money: all the banker or loan company wanted was a mortgage on the farm—and, of course that could be paid off next season. Sometimes it was, and sometimes it wasn't; then there was another added expense in interest money. Thus debts increased, and like the proverbial snowball, grew in size the longer they rolled.

Credit System Faulty.

The universal credit system of the southeast, which has grown with the years, must bear its share of blame for the predicament of southeastern agriculture. Up to within the past few years it has been far too easy for the farmer to borrow money or to obtain credit. In times past all he had to do was to promise to produce a certain number of bales of cotton and he was always ready to risk meeting the loan; if he did, paying, an exorbitant rate of interest for the accommodation, well and good, if he didn't, it was just unfortunate, and he was forced deeper into the mire of debt in the hope of pulling out the next year.

Banks, supply stores, mortgage companies and individual lenders are mainly responsible for this condition of affairs; they could have brought it to a halt decades ago, just as they have done in the past few years, when they were forced to do so because they were loaded beyond expectations of realization with unsound loans, secured by mortgages on farm property, the value of which has receded almost to

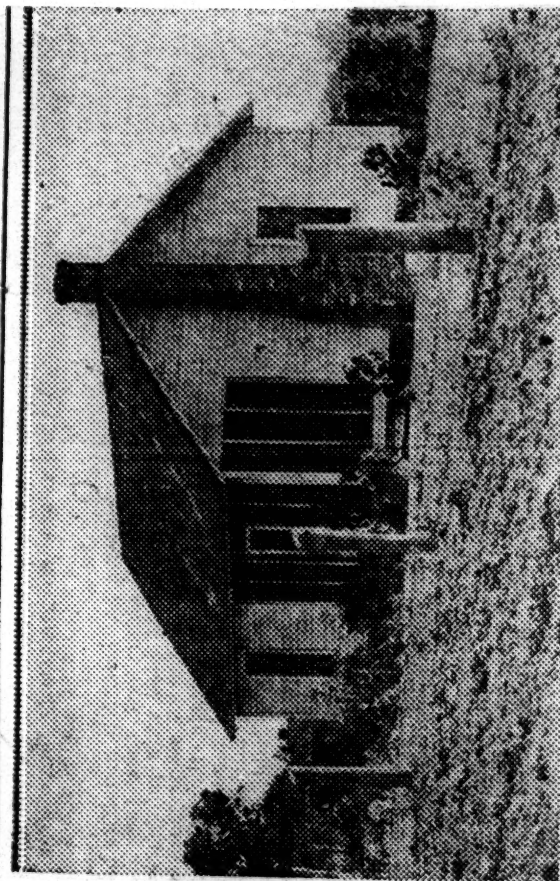
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That some big farmers made huge fortunes, and some small farmers became quite wealthy during the period that cotton was a real king is quite true. But how many of those who adhered to the all-cotton plan have been able to weather the financial vicissitudes of the past few years? Isn't it a fact that the farmers in your community—large or small, owners or tenants—who are in the best shape financially, are those who have practiced diversification over a long period?

In opening this forum of opinion on "What is wrong with southeastern agriculture and what is the remedy for its ailments," we have made it quite clear that we consider the one-crop system that has prevailed for the past half-century to be a complete failure, and that in seeking a remedy for the ills that are so apparent the first thing to do is to admit that failure, discard the one-crop plan and start to grow gradually into diversified farming, which means the production of food and feed crops, live stock, poultry, dairying and the various farm activities that may be summed up in the word diversification.

That is our opinion, frankly stated, but this being a forum for discussion of the subject, you are invited to agree or disagree. One person does not know all about any subject, and you may have some ideas on the matter that are very valuable. All we ask is that you make your contribution short and say something in it that will cause farmers, businessmen, bankers and citizens generally to give the subject real thought, for out of thought we should secure action.

Contrast in Housing Farm Labor



Top—One of the real homes provided for colored farm laborers on Colonial plantation, near Leesburg, Ga. These houses are nicely furnished within and are kept clean and tidy. The windows and porches are screened, flower garden in front, vegetable garden and chicken yard in the rear. The colored families are required to maintain a balanced diet, what they do not raise in their own gardens being furnished at cost price. They are healthy, proud of their homes and are industrious. Below—One of several houses occupied by colored farm families, not far distant from the one above. The present occupants, or others, have partially torn down the house for firewood. It might be termed a partial shelter from storms—nothing more. How can a land-owner expect anything from a cropper or tenant who is willing to live in a place like this? Isn't it quite probable that housing conditions for farm labor plays an important part in the troubles that beset southeastern agriculture?

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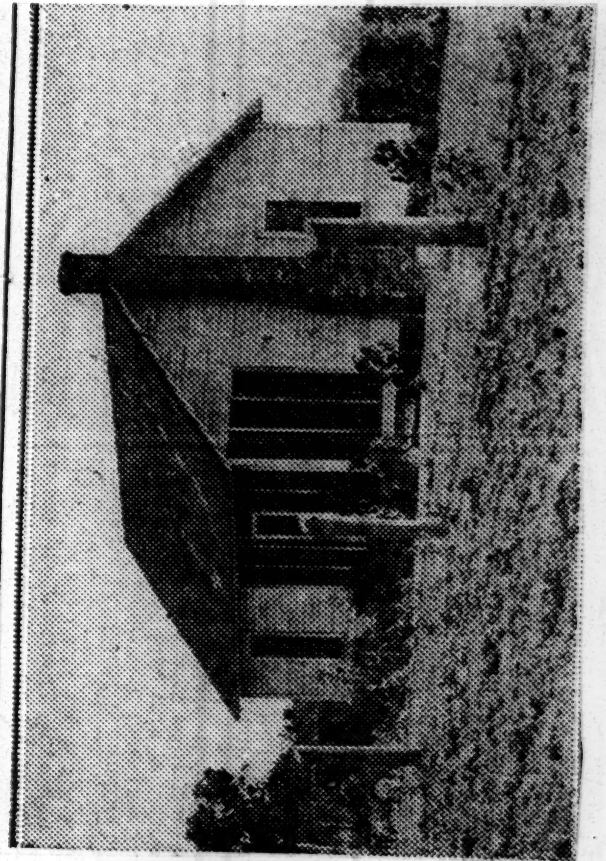
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Agriculture-1932

Condition of

Macon, Ga. News
Thursday, December 22, 1932

Filling the Farms

SO QUIETLY as not to be generally observed, a movement is now going on which may soon carry us a long way towards solving the problem of unemployment.

It may probably come as a surprise to the average citizen to know that within the past year in Alabama 15,000 persons have gone from the cities to the farms and in Georgia in a year and a half, the number is said to be approximately 30,000.

The figures for Georgia are given by Roy LeCraw, president of the Atlanta chamber of commerce, on the basis of a check of 75 counties. The chamber itself sent more than 75 families back to the farm this year with a supply of food and clothing to last them until the first crop was harvested. This organization now has 800 farms listed and 1,500 former farm families are registered with the chamber as desiring to return to the farm.

The statement as to Alabama is made by F. W. Gist, federal and state agricultural statistician.

The movement back to the farm began on a small scale in 1930, Mr. Gist said. This was the first year after the collapse of the stock market. In that year approximately 2,000 persons returned to the farm.

Declining employment in industry sent 10,000 persons back to the farm in Alabama in 1931, and during the present year the movement reached its peak with 6,000 families, averaging 5 persons each, moving from the cities and towns to the farms.

In Alabama at least two-thirds of the families are Negroes and most of the movement has been into the black belt in central Alabama, together with the farming area around Birmingham.

Some years ago, Mr. Gist pointed out, there was a tremendous demand for industrial labor and Negroes went out of the black belt to Birmingham and other cities in large numbers.

Many of these have now returned. In some of the black belt counties there is not a vacant tenant house. Some have rented farms while many of them have contracted to buy farms.

In many cases they have begun work with a minimum of equipment. The steer has

made its appearance once more, not only because the first cost is low, but because this animal can be worked at the lowest cost per unit of energy that can be found.

Seth P. Storrs, state commissioner of agriculture, practically confirms all the statements made by Mr. Gist. He adds that none of these returned farmers are starving and that the smoke house on at least a large majority of Alabama farms is well filled.

Nobody pretends that the families who have been forced to return to the farm will enjoy many of the luxuries of life, but it is conceded that they will have plenty of wholesome food, clothing and shelter, and, above all, will be eliminated as a charge on the charity of cities and town.

In thus relieving the industrial centers from the burden of supporting them, it is true economy to give the farmers a stake which will last them until the first crop is gathered. This idea is gaining general recognition.

The 45,000 persons in Alabama and Georgia who have thus returned to the farm have hardly made an impression on the vast amount of idle acres in these two states. To a greater or less extent this condition exists all over the South and to some extent in New England and the Far West. The soil can still absorb literally millions of the unemployed.

Where the movement has been financed, as by the Atlanta chamber of commerce, it is made a condition precedent that the head of the family should have had some experience in farming. But it is easy to exaggerate the importance of this experience under present day conditions. Nearly every county has its farm agent and the state and federal departments of agriculture have a vast amount of information ready for distribution as to every line of activity on the farm.

A man would have to be mighty dumb if he could not win at least a simple living from the soil, with all the present day aids available, even though he may have been a carpenter or a steamfitter in the industrial world.

Experience seems to be proving that this is one movement which is well entitled to the greatest possible encouragement.

Georgia

Condition of.

Illinois Farmers Lay Plans to Better Their Condition

Chronic

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 27. — Plans to improve the condition of race farmers in Illinois took definite shape at a meeting held here Tuesday and called by the Springfield Urban league. The speaker was James P. Davis of Chicago, president of the National Federation of Colored Farmers. Mr. Davis stated that in 66 counties state race farmers own farms ranging in size from a few acres to several hundred acres.

Variation of their operations is shown by the fact that they are dairymen and poultrymen and raise rabbits, produce and cotton. At Grand Chain they own and operate a cotton gin. In many counties in the southern part of the state race farmers farm more land than whites.

Hard to Get Loans

In spite of these facts, Mr. Davis asserted that our farmers often found it difficult to secure the grant of loans through the federal farm bureau; that farm demonstrators expended little effort on advising our farmers, and in many instances they could not join the farmers' co-operative societies for shipping their produce, so they had to ship independently.

The first step in the plan is to get race farmers throughout the state to show their produce at the state fair held annually in August in Springfield. This is said to be the largest and most successful fair in America.

Organization of the farmers into groups for exchange of mutual opinion as to the improvement of crops and marketing will follow.

The plan also includes advising race citizens in congested cities where good farms can be purchased reasonably. It was felt that in the great centers are many who cannot adjust themselves to city life and who would be surer of making a living for themselves and families on good farms.

Attending the meeting were Assistant State Commerce Commissioner Charles E. Rice, James P. Davis, president of the National Federation of Colored Farmers; Maj. R. A. Byrd, Dr. J. Irving Ford, Attorney A. Morris Williams, John H. White, N. D. Gray, Dr. Robert H. Beverly, R. P. Taylor, D. E. Webster, Tribune Moseley and William M. Ashby, executive secretary of the Springfield Urban league.

A committee held a conference with Stewart E. Pierson, director of the state department of agriculture, and Milton E. Jones, manager of the state fair. They showed interest in the plan and pledged their co-operation and support. Farmers or other interested persons may communicate with the Springfield Urban league.

Agriculture-1932

Louisiana

Condition of

SHREVEPORT

LOUISIANA

NOV 23 1932

PLACING NEGROES ON THE FARM

Described elsewhere in this issue of The Times is the colonization plan of I. B. Daniels, colored, who proposes that jobless negroes of Shreveport be placed on small farm tracts as a practical method of permanent unemployment relief.

Details of the plan show that it is not visionary. By renting the land or purchasing it on long terms, at low cost, the negro family is given a chance to make a living from the soil. The present unemployment relief wage would suffice to carry the family through the winter and in the spring a carefully diversified crop program would supply year-round sustenance as well as a sufficient margin of income to defray the cost of the land rent or purchasing installment.

Of course, it would be a struggle for existence. Food would be of the most elemental sort and comforts would be few and far between. But that would be better for the negro, for his family and for Shreveport as a community than the present condition, which sees the families constantly on the border line of starvation, with all enterprise being sapped away by enforced idleness.

Readers can readily see that an essential for success of the Daniels project is a willingness on the part of the unemployed negro to work industriously. That factor might contribute some individual failures, but it is unquestionably true that many negroes could be found who would welcome an opportunity to reach economic independence in this manner.

In our opinion Daniels, who has had long experience in actual farming and in the upbuilding of negro character deserves co-operation in his venture. His urgent need at the present time is a truck, to be used in transporting negroes and home furnishings to the colonization tract. We recommend his request to the attention of persons who believe in that type of constructive charity which seeks to solve economic problems permanently, rather than to perpetuate them as problems through gifts which undermine the initiative of the recipients.

Agriculture 1932

Condition of Fourth of Mississippi Farm Lands Is Placed Under Hammer for Taxes

JACKSON, Miss., April 4.—(P)—An estimated 25 per cent of Mississippi's privately owned property went on the auction block today for delinquent taxes.

Sheriff's hammers swung in practically every county and city as lands seized for non-payment of taxes were offered for sale. State Land Commissioner R. D. Moore made the estimate that one-fourth of the state's private property was involved. He based his figures on advertisements received from county and chancery clerks, who informed him that land advertised for sale this year exceeded any year in the history of the state.

Reports of sheriffs of 74 of the 82 counties to Governor Conner disclosed that 39,699 farms went on the block today, or 16.2 per cent of the total agricultural acreage of the state. In addition, 12 per cent of city and town property was forfeited for non-payment of 1931 taxes, according to the reports. Sixty thousand families' homes are under the hammer and approximately 7,000,000 acres will be sold.

An average of 543 farms per county were up for sale, the reports showed. The number ranged from 16 in Franklin county to 1,946 in Leflore county. Other counties in which the number of farms advertised for sale exceeded 1,000 were: Tallahatchie, 1,824; Holmes, 1,161; Humphreys, 1,422; Lawrence, 1,120; Newton, 1,138; Simpson, 1,147; Marion, 1,301; and Yazoo, 1,433.

Commissioner Moore estimated the state already possesses 15,000 to 40,000 acres of land in each county, taken over for delinquent taxes. "If lands offered this year revert to the state and are not redeemed, the state stands to have better than one-fourth of its property off the tax rolls in another two years—the period allowed for redemption," he said.

The enormous amount of land tax foreclosures appears in the face of operation this year of an installment tax payment law enacted during the extraordinary session of the legislature last fall. Under the act only 50 per cent of the taxes fell due February 1. Another installment of 25 per cent falls due August 1.

Cognizant of the situation, the legislature last week rushed through a bill, signed by the governor Saturday, designed to lighten the penalty of property owners where lands were forfeited. It reduced damages on tax-sold lands to five per cent, levied at date of sale and one cent a month until redeemed. The old law inflicted penalties of approximately 30 per cent.

The bill's authors sponsored it as an emergency relief measure and contended it will serve to encourage early redemption of forfeited lands.

Negroes Lose Many Farms

JACKSON, Miss.—An estimated 25 per cent of Mississippi privately owned property, a large part Negroes, went on the auction block Monday for delinquent taxes.

Sheriff's hammer swung in practically every county as lands seized for non-payment of taxes were offered for sale. 4-23-32

Reports of 74 of the 82 counties disclosed 39,699 farms, or 16.2 per cent of the total agricultural acreage of the state and 12 per cent of its city and town property.

News
Jackson Miss
MAY 12 1932

WILL URGE NEGROES BACK TO THE FARM

Editor Daily News:

After touring the country, studying conditions and seeing the needs of the negroes, I have decided to visit every section of the South, preach the gospel "Back to the Farm," confer with our white people and aid in bringing about a better understanding. This is being carried on under the auspices of the National Rural Industrial Association, Inc., an organization highly endorsed by the thinkers of both races.

These meetings are mostly held in courthouses and other public places under the directions of the county and city authorities who will appoint a negro committee from their leading negroes.

I find thousands of negroes in cities unemployed, living in crowded tenements, living useless lives and breeding diseases; these negroes mostly came from the farm; they should be advised to return to the farm. Good homes, churches and schools must be built on the farms for these people, make them useful people. The negro is a natural farm hand, and if he turns his back on the farm he is headed for the rocks.

I will speak at the following places and dates:

Forest, in courthouse, Sunday, May 15, at 3:30 p. m.
Canton, Monday night, May 61.

negro church, Pearl River Valley Lumber Company.

Carthage, Tuesday night, May 17, in courthouse.

Camp of Pearl River Lumber Company, Wednesday night, May 18.

Burnside, Thursday night, May 19, in negro church.

Pelahatchie, Friday night, May 20, negro church, Appolonia Lumber Company.

Aberdeen, Sunday, May 22 at 3:30 p. m. in courthouse.

Columbus, Tuesday night, May 24, in courthouse.

Laurel, Thursday night, May 26, in courthouse.

Hattiesburg, Sunday May 29, in courthouse, 3:30 p. m.

Other dates and speaking places will be arranged and published from time to time.

I am asking the unstinted cooperation from every true American in this work, and the public give us advice and invitations at any time.

This work is the greatest offset to the enemies, now covering the country, working steadily in the schools, churches and lodges among the ignorant and unemployed.

J. M. WILLIAMSON,
President.
667 Woodward street, Memphis.

Mississippi Offers Flavor Of Old South to Tourists

Still an Empire of Cotton and Languid Land of Moonlight and Magnolias, Mansions and Cabins, Plantations and Woods.

BY JAMES H. STREET.
Associated Press Staff Writer

JACKSON, Miss., Aug. 18.—Mississippi—its history as glamorous as a body of industry in South Mississippi—the gaunt old river which gave it a name—is Dixie's offering to wanderers who hunt for an atmosphere of the genuinely old south—an empire of cotton and a languid land of moonlight and magnolias.

There is a tranquil dignity about the state, if one be seeking peace. It is found in the prairies of the north central counties, the red hills of the north, the delta of the mid-river valley, the bluffs of the lower river, the gentle hills of the south and the dominion of palm and pine along the coast where the Gulf of Mexico slips between a fringe of islands and plays at glittering beaches.

Yet there is a boyish enthusiasm about Mississippi, like a vendable warrior who has rededicated his life to fun. The prairie lands are fresh with alfalfa and new barns, cotton mills chew and grunt in the middle

The Black Gold.

To Mississippi came the coated and bearded adventurers of France and Spain seeking gold and found a river so big that the Indians had called it the Father of Waters. They little realized that the silt which the mid-river scattered about in reckless abandon was black gold.

Then to Mississippi came clans from the seacoast of the new America. Gentle folk whose wives packed silk petticoats as big as ship's sails in rosewood boxes and brought them to another promised land.

They snatched alluvial soil from under the river's nose and then fought to keep it. And they are still fighting to hold it for the Mississippi River is not always kind to its namesake and no mortal wrath

is as terrible as "Dat ol' river's" temper.

Travelers often enter Mississippi from the north through the Memphis gateway and follow the river down the delta. Here is a land which delights any man who finds romance in black dirt and living plants. Cotton is everywhere and big mules and big negroes stir the ground around it.

The mules strain at heavy plows and the negroes sing about what they will do when the crop is laid by. It is a land of mansions and cabins, highly cultivated plantations and woods. Many little flat bottom boats and river steamers. The people have a philosophy without equal anywhere in America. If their cotton sells good the planters play from St. Louis to Memphis to New Orleans and the negroes buy new fangled musical instruments and big automobiles.

If times are hard, the people stay at home, dance with their cousins and eat beefsteak instead of pompano. But they always find time to laugh and hunt and fish and entertain visitors from the "Nof" at sumptuous dinners although they might "beg yo' paddon, suh, but we are fresh out of Madiera."

Bluffs of the South.

To the south of the delta is Vicksburg—the home of the valley. It is perched on high hills which have defied the Mississippi River for centuries and which defied Gen. U. S. Grant's army for many months in the bloody war of the west. There is the old river front—the National Park and Cemetery with row or row of graves of men who died there—thousands to uphold Mississippi's claim of absolute sovereignty and thousands to keep the state in the fold with her sisters.

Farther south is Natchez. Old Natchez—Under-the-Hill and the new city. Stately manors and moss covered oaks under which gallants fought their affairs of honor stand sentry in the bluff country. To this section came Aaron Burr to build an empire. From this section went Jefferson Davis to lead a new nation.

Jackson, the capital and a bustling modern city is to the west while northeast of this city are such delightful old cities as Columbus, an educational center; Grenada, Canton, Corinth, Aberdeen, Macon and Starkville. It is a land of dairy cows and cheese plants, silos and fat pigs. The delta has Greenville, Clarksdale and Greenwood and many smaller cities which are plantation towns.

Meridian, a cotton and railroad center, is to the east and Laurel and Hattiesburg—cities that pine trees built—are to the south. Mississippi (they call it Missippe down here), has no real large cities. Yet each Mississippian has some claim on Birmingham, Mobile, New Orleans and Memphis. These cities are near the borders of the state and Mississippians help keep them thriving.

The coast country has Biloxi,

Gulfport and a bevy of smaller resort cities. Each is interesting for frolics or study. There are great hotels for the luxury loving, small hotels for the frugal traveler. Mississippi offers everything a traveler might want except mountains. A highway program has been launched, but roads now are easily traveled.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

News

SEP 30 1932

Hot Biscuits, Fresh Butter And Grins Abound; It's 'Lasses-Making Time

BY JAMES H. STREET

HOT COFFEE, Miss.—(AP)—There were huckleberry pies in the pantry, hot biscuits on the stove, fresh butter in the cellar and grins on a million faces Friday for it's 'lasses-making time down South.

'Lasses is the answer to the plea of a poor man's sweet tooth. It is a syrup, gummy and heavy, but there is a gastronomical affinity between hot biscuits, butter and molasses that makes Southern folk go into fits of ecstasy.

Those who drink from silver goblets call it syrup, those who drink from gourd dippers call it 'lasses, and the Negroes, who drink from cupped hands, call it molasses, but it's all the same. It is made fresh in the Fall and usually kept in jugs all Winter—big brown jugs with corncob stoppers.

The syrup is made by pressing the juice from sugar cane and cooking it in big vats. Almost every farm and plantation has a cane mill worked by mule power.

'Lasses making time is the real harvest time down South. The cotton has been gathered, the pigs are getting fat and the collards and pumpkins are begging for frost. The children and grandchildren come home from the cities "to stay a whet."

It is a time of feasting and rejoicing—roast quail for breakfast, potlikker and cornpone for dinner and baked ham, squirrel pie, sweet potatoes and six-layer cakes for supper.

Condition of
NEW BERN, N. C.
NEW BERNIAN

FEB 5 1932

The Negro Tenant Farmer

In the remaking of agriculture in North Carolina state leaders believe that some sixty to seventy-five thousand negro farmers will be set adrift this winter and spring, or compelling that number to make radical readjustments in their present locations. Such a change, it is pointed out, would create a situation of tremendous economic and social significance to the entire state.

With that in view, the North Carolina committee on interracial cooperation has planned an eastern Carolina conference to be held in Greenville on February 5. It will consider, the announcement says, "Human Relations in Agricultural Adjustments." A serious effort will be made to find the facts and to consider some of the ways out.

Removed to a good degree from the one-crop system of farming, Craven county will not face so serious a situation as some of the cotton and tobacco counties. Unemployed negroes in this county are largely to be found within the city of New Bern, and their reemployment awaits a return of activity to the lumber industry. There have been some indications that conditions will improve there, and New Bern is certainly to be congratulated upon the manner in which it has been getting along this winter.

WINSTON SALEM, N. C.
JOURNAL

JAN 8 1932

BETTER NEGRO FARMERS
(Kinston Free Press)

Negro farmers of Lenoir county have their own demonstration agent now. They are fortunate in having procured a man with more than a score of years' experience. They have formed an organization, which has the moral support of the race's local leaders. The county will take over the demonstration work if it gets a good start.

This is an important item in the day's news. It may well be considered the most important

item of a local nature. If the lot of Lenoir county's thousands of negro farm folk can be improved, if they can be shown how and encouraged to become more productive, the county is bound to benefit accordingly.

Demonstration work among negroes has been astonishingly successful in many localities. An expert with a reputation for efficiency and industry has been brought here. There are big possibilities in this business.

Laurinburg, N. C. Exchange
Thursday, February 11, 1932

FUTURE OF NEGRO
IN AGRICULTURE

Says Farmer Fares Better Than
Any Other Class in This Period
of Depression, Agriculture Must
Carry on.

The following is a text of an address delivered by President F. D. Bluford, of the Agricultural and Technical College, Greensboro, (a State institution for Negroes) at a farmers meeting at the Laurinburg Normal and Industrial Institute last week. Readers of The Exchange will be interested in the views of this Negro educator with respect to farming and the part the Negro will play in the future:

I am happy to come back to this splendid institution again and to have an opportunity to have a part in this program. I am glad to see Principal McDuffie, the faculty, students and friends of this institution engaged in a great agricultural program. I want to congratulate you upon coming out in such large numbers and I want to congratulate Principal McDuffie and Prof. Wray upon the great work which they are doing here.

Agriculture today the world over is at a very low ebb. Wheat is selling at 60 cents a bushel, cotton at five and six cents a pound and tobacco for seven and eight cents a pound, the lowest prices that these commodities have sold for in a number of years. Warehouses are stocked with tobacco, cotton and wheat, which cannot be sold at prices even approaching the cost of production.

Prices of all other commodities have reached a correspondingly low level in this country. In the countries of Europe we find that the conditions of the farm show no improvement over our own. Practically every country in Europe has adopted a self-sufficing policy in regard to agriculture, thus making it more and more difficult for American farmers to compete in the foreign markets. Everywhere there seems to prevail a spirit of pessimism.

In spite of all these pessimistic signs, we are encouraged by the

knowledge of the fact that the business of farming must go on. As long as there are towns and cities needing food, clothing and shelter there will be a place for the intelligent and efficient farmer who owns and produces on his own farm.

Farming is not the only occupation that has suffered from the depression that is facing us. Manufacturing, transportation, building trades and practically every occupation is suffering more from this depression than agriculture. The bread lines that stalk through the streets of all of our large cities are evidences of the fact. We are living in a very critical time. Conditions which do not seem to understand have overtaken our machine civilization. At a time when our barns are bursting with goods and when we have almost unlimited capacity to produce all the goods that the people could consume, hunger, want and suffering stalks abroad in our land. In the midst of plenty our children are crying for bread. Millions of strong men who are willing to work are walking the streets seeking for jobs by which they may earn a living for their wives and children.

I was in Chicago the other day and I saw a long bread line of white and colored people marching to the soup kitchen. Policemen had to stop the traffic so that this long line of hungry men might pass. Two or three thousand able-bodied men could get only soup because they could not work to buy food. There are no bread lines on the farm. The efficient, industrious farmer may not have much money, but he knows where the next meal is coming from.

The farmers in North Carolina who have adopted the live-at-home program of our wise, far-seeing Governor, should have a plenty to eat. The real farmers are the best off people in the world today. There are no bread lines on farms owned and operated by progressive Negro farmers. The man on the farm who does his duty by his land and by his family will come out all right. Who knows by what this period of depression has not come upon us to teach us our mistakes. In times of prosperity many of us throw away our money.

We just like to spend money for things that don't mean much to us. Everybody regards the Negro as a great spender. We don't sell much but we buy everything. Seventy per cent of the Negroes in this country live on the farm. We own and operate 925,000 farms, which are scattered over practically every state in the

Union. Four or five million Negroes are dependent upon farming for their livelihood. These farms

represent by far the bulk of the tangible wealth owned by Negroes in the South. They have been obtained at great sacrifice and hard work. Many of the pioneer farmers are passing to their just reward. Their sons and daughters must take up where they have left off and carry on, not as their fathers did, but in the light of the present day methods. They must, by the use of modern machinery, diversify farming, destruction of the boll weevil and other farm pests build for themselves a permanent community, church and school life that will meet the test of our exacting and critical American standard.

The land grant colleges, Hampton, Tuskegee, Laurinburg Institute and the county training schools are striving to prepare the youth of the race for the opportunities that await them in the shops and on the farms. What our boys and girls do, how they look upon this all important question, in my opinion decide the fate of the Negro farming industry and ultimately the fate of the race in America. If they forsake the farms for the glamour of city life, the race will be doomed, but if on the other hand they think seriously upon these matters and attack the problems of tenancy and the one-crop system and help to improve the rural church and to direct the rural schools so that they may become centers of light and life to the people whom they are to serve, a new type of civilization will spring up on our farms and in our rural districts.

Much of the education which has been given us in the past has educated us away from the farm rather than to it. We have been told of the glories of city life and we have not been taught to appreciate and love the beauties of the country all about us. Every child should be taught to see the opportunities that are all around him. For if the Negro is to make progress in agriculture, it must be done through the training of the boys who are already on the farm. Something must be done to cause these boys to look with favor upon the type of life that can be lived on the farm.

Farming will soon come into her own again and any man who has been taught to produce the maximum on an acre of land, how to prepare balanced rations for his family and the livestock, how to improve his home and how to use sanitary regulations to protect his herds and flocks against disease, how to operate and repair modern machinery and adapt it to his

present day needs in his production programs will be able to live on as high economic plane as men in industries or the professions.

While there is not so much competition on the farm, we should establish ourselves. Let us buy land while it is cheap and plan for the prosperity that is sure to come. Let us co-operate with the farm demonstration agents, the agricultural teachers, the teachers in our public schools and the ministers in our churches in order to improve our rural communities. These are all servants in our community who will be glad to help us.

Let us also co-operate with the white people in our communities. Even in this period of depression we must see to it that our children attend school. We must see to it that our schools are up to the standard. If you don't have buses for your children, if your school term is shorter than the term of other schools in your community, if you need a consolidated school house instead of the two or three one-room schools that you have, if the teachers in your schools have more pupils than they can properly teach, go to the leading white people in your community and talk these conditions over with them. The white people in North Carolina have never striven harder to be fair and just to Negroes than they are striving today.

There are people who feel that this depression will be over when congress passes certain relief legislation; that help must come from some source other than themselves, but this depression will end when all of us do our duty and work to bring about a better day.

The farmer can cure the depression so far as he is concerned by growing first, the things that he needs for his family and stock and then growing things to sell. The farmers should also organize. They should take advantage of the farm organizations around them so that they may keep a more even balance between production and consumption.

In controlling production, the farmer has an economic remedy which is not only effective and certain, but one which can not be repealed by any act of legislation. This remedy is to regulate production of farm products to the limits of the market demands. We now have a fairly accurate knowledge of market demands. We have also an accurate knowledge of the per acre yield. If, therefore, the acreage be limited to such an extent as under normal conditions will bring production within the demands of the market, we will be on a sound agricultural basis.

Reduction in acreage of cotton and tobacco will have a favorable effect upon the prices of these crops next year. When the capi-

talists understand that the farmers have adopted a definite program of reduction in the crops of cotton and tobacco there will come an immediate increase in the prices of these commodities. Vigorous, co-operative action on the part of the farmers this year would increase the value of these crops by a sum larger than the loss on the reduced acreage. The farmers should produce what is necessary as cheaply as possible, but they should limit the amount of production to the needs of the market. Profits, not surplus production, will bring prosperity. Taxes and farm expenses are paid out of the profits made on the farm. A high standard of living on the farm is determined by the profits that are made on the commodities and not by the quantity of the crops. If all of the cotton were grown by Mr. Ford, he would limit his acreage. By scientific methods of agriculture and the use of modern machinery, he would produce cotton as cheaply as possible, but he would hold down production so that he could always realize a profit. The millions of American farmers who own the cotton land have the same reason for applying this same solution to their problem.

These millions of farm families are now engaged in a destructive competition with each other. Each is using his surplus in beating down the prices of the other. Each family strikes something off the living standard, the educational opportunities and the welfare of each other. Yet they are not enemies—they are friends and neighbors having the same interests, the same ambitions, and having the same rights to American opportunities and standards of living. The farmers must use the methods of the business men, if they hope to succeed.

The progress of the Negroes in this country is dependent upon a growing number of intelligent and efficient Negro men and women owning and operating farms in every section of this country. I believe that when Negro farmers own and control millions of dollars worth of cotton, tobacco, corn, wheat, hogs, dairy products and other necessities of life and are able to market them intelligently and co-operatively, they will find a larger and more important place in the life of the nation.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

OBSERVER

FEB 23 1932

BACK TO THE FARM.

Laurinburg Negro Leader Proposes One Better Than Mark Sullivan.

To the Editor of The Observer:

The plan to reduce unemployment in the North, by returning thousands of negroes to the farms in the south, as submitted through the columns of The New York Herald-Tribune, as of date February 4th by Mr. Mark Sullivan, veteran Washington correspondent, would be hailed with delight and profit, by thousands and thousands of self-respecting negroes, provided Government and philanthropy would first prepare a place for them. "Back to the Farm," "Stay on the Farm," was the advice and admonition of Booker T. Washington the greatest negro Moses, the negro people have ever had. If the black man on the farm will farm to make a living, he will get wealthy; but if he farms to get rich, he will make a failure.

There are ten thousand acres of fertile farm lands in the South capable of producing 50 bushels of corn, or 50 bushels of wheat or two tons of hay or a bale of cotton per acre, that can be bought for two dollars per acre and thousands of acres can be bought even for the taxes per acre. Now if the United States government or philanthropy will buy up these lands, divide them into small farms say of 30 or 40 acres to the farmer, equip them with houses, barns, stables, mules, farm implements, feed stuff for stock and rations for farmers, just for the first six months, place the farms under competent farm superintendents, then charge the farmers a rate of annual rent for the lands that will in the course of specified time be equal to the cost of the investment and when all rentals are paid give the farmer a fee simple deed for said farm land.

I warrant you if this plan is carried out that neither the North nor the South, the East nor the West, will ever be concerned by the unemployment situation of the black man. He would not be a ward or a charge of the government like the Indians on their reservations that cost our government millions of dollars for their upkeep, but they would constitute colonies of independent farm land owners. There would be no peonage, debt slavery, lynching, mob violence, nor inter-marriage and it would be the first opportunity that the negro farmer would have to carry out the injunction of our great North Carolina Governor Gardner, "Live-at-Home."

I have permission from Mr. Hugh McRae, capitalist of Wilmington, and greatest farm colonizer for whites in eastern Carolina, to say that he endorses such a plan for the negro farmer of the South and feels certain in a very short time he would become self-sustaining and in many instances wealthy.

I want to say here for the information of citizens who might seem inclined to rush the

negroes back South in train loads and cargoes, that because of the white farm-land owners' failure "to farm to make a living" the most of them are so impoverished that they are unable to furnish their negro tenants who have five and six in family any more than \$1.50 to \$2.50 a week, per family, during the six months of 14 hours per day on the farm, required to make the crop. So you can see by this fact how awfully unworkable Mr. Sullivan's plan to dump half million negroes in the South before the government could have chance to prepare the place for them.

As to the negro's future in the United States, I would say, because of the races' inability to give high grade employment to the thousands of college men and women that are economically adrift, it would be wisdom for States and philanthropy to stress the agricultural industrial and common school accomplishments of the race until the race would become economically strong enough to support and give employment to its college and professional men and women. Colonies of independent negro farm land owners would be the nucleus for such a prosperous and independent race supporting situation, for the future negro.

Laurinburg, Feb. 19.

GREENWOOD, S. C.

INDEX JOURNAL

WAR 3 1932
"LIEN DAY" OF OLD

Two Negro tenants of the old regime were talking together last Tuesday, the first day of March, and one was heard to say to the other: "Well, dis is de day, we nused ter jine de church!"

Which observation brought a hearty laugh from both but this generation cannot see the point.

Years ago, it was general custom for "liens to open" on the first day of March.

The colored tenant did the best he could through the Winter months, living on his own food grown the year before or fed from the landlord's smokehouse if the landlord was thrifty, and added variety by hunting when the urge came on, all the time "soothed and sustained" by the certain knowledge that when the first day of March came he would come into his own by having the opportunity to buy goods from a store or draw extra rations from his employer as "the lien" was open. The "lien" was a crop mortgage under which advances were made.

In the language of yesteryear,

many tenants called it "joining the church" and that was what was meant by the remark above quoted.

It is no longer the fashion or custom. Tuesday, the first observer said to the other, in effect, that he had been up town that day and saw some of the old boys standing around but they were not joyful and in good cheer as in other years. There was no "opening of the lien" and like so many other things which go to show that the times are out of joint, it made these two sigh for the days when things were different.

But the man, tenant or landlord, who can grow his own food is in a much better state than when dependent on credit for some one to "run on" during the crop year. The man who sold them goods would "run" them, and he would often have to run them down sure enough when Fall came to get his money or part of it even back.

Condition of
BURLINGTON, N. C.
TIMES

FEB 19 1932
NO BREAD LINES ON THE
FARM

President F. D. Bluford, of the State Agricultural and Technical school in Greensboro, speaking before the student body of Laurinburg College for Negroes, declared that there is no bread line on the farms of this country, they know where the next meal is coming from. There are no bread lines on farms operated by progressive negro farmers. The farmers of North Carolina who have joined the Live at Home campaign are not hungry this winter. The real farmers are the people who are the best off today.

President Bluford said concerning negro farmers of the country:

We just like to spend money for things that don't mean much to us. Everybody regards the Negro as a great spender. We don't sell much but we buy everything. . . . for your children, if your school

Seventy per cent of the Negroes in this country live on the farm. We own and operate 925,000 farms, which are scattered over practically every state in the union. Four or five million Negroes are dependent upon farming for their livelihood. These farms represent by far the bulk of the tangible wealth owned by Negroes in the South. They have been obtained at great sacrifice and hard work. Many of the pioneer farmers are passing to their just reward. Their sons and daughters must take up where they have left off and carry on, not as their fathers did, but in the light of present day methods. They must, by the use of modern machinery, diversified farming, destruction of the boll weevil and other farm pests build for themselves a permanent community, church and school life that will meet the test of our exacting and critical American standard.

Farming will soon come into her own again and any man who has been taught to produce the maximum on an acre of land, how to

prepare balanced rations for his family and the livestock, how to improve his home and how to use sanitary regulations to protect his herd and flocks against disease

how to operate and repair modern machinery and adapt it to his present day needs in his production programs will be able to live on as high economic plane as men in industries or the professions.

While there is not so much competition on the farm, we should establish ourselves. Let us buy land while it is cheap and plan for the prosperity that is sure to come. Let us co-operate with the farm demonstration agents, the agricultural teachers, the teachers in our public schools and the ministers in our churches in order to improve our rural communities. These are all servants in our community who will be glad to help us.

Let us also co-operate with the white people in our communities. Even in this period of depression

we must see to it that our children attend school. We must see to it that our schools are up to the standard. If you don't have buses for your children, if your school term is shorter than the term of other schools in your community, if you need a consolidated school house instead of the two or three practically every state in the union. Four or five million Negroes are dependent upon farming more pupils than they can properly teach, go to the leading white people in your community and talk these conditions over with them.

The white people in North Carolina have never striven harder to be fair and just to Negroes than they are striving today.

There are people who feel that this depression will be over when congress passes certain relief legislation; that help must come from some source other than themselves, but this depression will end when all of us do our duty and work to bring about a better day.

The farmer can cure the depression so far as he is concerned by growing first, the things that he needs for his family and stock and then growing things to sell. The

farmers should also organize. They should take advantage of the farm organizations around them so that

they may keep a more even balance between production and consumption

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
OBSERVER

FEB 23 1932
BACK TO THE FARM.

Laurinburg Negro Leader Proposes One Better Than Mark Sullivan.

To the Editor of The Observer:

The plan to reduce unemployment in the North, by returning thousands of negroes to the farms in the south, as submitted through the columns of The New York Herald-Tribune as of date February 4th by Mr. Mark Sullivan, veteran Washington correspondent, would be hailed with delight and profit, by thousands of self-respecting negroes, provided Government and philanthropy would first prepare a place for them. "Back to the Farm," "Stay on the Farm," was the advice and admonition of Booker T. Washington the great negro Moses, the negro people have ever had. If the black man on the farm will farm to make a living, he will get wealthy; but if he farms to get rich he will make a failure.

There are ten thousand acres of fertile farm lands in the South capable of producing 50 bushels of corn, or 50 bushels of wheat or two tons of hay or a bale of cotton per acre, that can be bought for two dollars per acre and thousands of acres can be bought even for the taxes per acre. Now if the United States government or philanthropy will buy up these lands, divide them into small farms say of 30 or 40 acres to the farmer, equip them with houses, barns, stables, mules, farm implements, feed stuff for stock and rations for farmers, just for the first six months, place the farms under competent farm superintendents, then charge the farmers a rate of annual rent for the lands that will in the course of specified time be equal to the cost of the investment and when all rentals are paid give the farmer a fee simple deed for said farm land.

I warrant you if this plan is carried out that neither the North nor the South, the East nor the West, will ever be concerned by the unemployment situation of the black man. He would not be a ward or a charge of the government like the Indians on their reservations that cost our government millions of dollars for their upkeep, but they would constitute colonies of independent farm land owners. There would be no peonage, debt slavery, lynching, mob violence, nor inter-marriage and it would be the first opportunity that the negro farmer would have to carry out the injunction of our great North Carolina Governor Gardner, "Live-at-Home."

I have permission from Mr. Hugh McRae, capitalist of Wilmington, and greatest farm colonizer for whites in eastern Carolina, to say that

he endorses such a plan for the negro farmer of the South and feels certain in a very short time he would become self-sustaining and in many instances wealthy.

I want to say here for the information of citizens who might seem inclined to rush the negroes back South in train loads and cargoes that, because of the white farm-land owners failure "to farm to make a living" the most of them are so impoverished that they are unable to furnish their negro tenants who have five and six in family any more than \$1.50 to \$2.50 a week, per family, during the six months of 14 hours per day on the farm, required to make the crop. So you can see by this fact how awfully unworkable Mr. Sullivan's plan to dump half million negroes in the South before the government could have chance to prepare the place for them.

As to the negro's future in the United States, I would say, because of the races' inability to give high grade employment to the thousands of college men and women that are economically adrift, it would be wisdom for States and philanthropy to stress the agricultural industrial and common school accomplishments of the race until the race would become economically strong enough to support and give employment to its college and professional men and women.

Colonies of independent negro farm land owners would be the nucleus for such a prosperous and independent race supporting situation, for the future negro.

W. P. EVANS.
Laurinburg, Feb. 19.
Fayetteville, N. C. Observer
Friday, April 1, 1932

AID TO NEGROES

Dean I. O. Schaub, of State College, has succeeded in securing the approval of the Extension Office at Washington to permit the use of Federal funds in aiding negroes of North Carolina to receive instruction in gardening and other live-at-home practices this season.

C. R. Hudson, in charge of extension work at the college, speaking of the plan says:

"It is better that these negroes be taught the principles of self-help than it is to give them public charity. With the approval of our project by the Washington office, we are now ready to co-operate with any town in placing a special garden agent in the town to work with the negro population during the next few weeks or months. In some cases the money that would be spent in supplying food could be used for this purpose and the results would be more lasting and beneficial. Of course, the hungry would have to be fed until the gardens have come into bearing."

Mr. Hudson said yesterday that he hoped the plan would attract the favorable attention of county and city officials so that

RALEIGH, N. C.
NEWS OBSERVER

FEB 28 1932

WAITING FOR HOOVER.

To the Editor: On February 25th I was fox hunting with Mr. S. P. Cooper, president of the Henderson Mills. He counted 55 able bodied Negroes riding mules, joining in the hunt. During the whole day we saw less than ten acres of land plowed up and about the same amount of land on which the stalks were cut. Just a year ago as I rode along the same road to my mill all of these Negroes were cleaning up land, plowing and cutting stalks. Today they are "Waiting on Hoover." The government helped them last year and it seems now that the burden has again fallen upon "Uncle Sam." Only a few years ago the farmers were cussing Hoover but today they are awaiting "His Will and Pleasure." Its the same old story "bait a turkey at the blind and he will come again." These Negro farmers plus the whites have been baited and if you don't believe they are awaiting the bait just get out in the country. With their backs against the wall they are awaiting the help of Mr. Hoover. Stricken with fear they ruined us of the man who forgot his Maker, until in trouble. A year ago they had less feed in their barns than of today and at the same late this writing knew but little of Hoover's help—still they were at work. Doubtless Uncle Sam will meet his children half way but he doesn't want them to lay down on the job and wait for all the stars to shine at once.

JNO. P. LEACH,

Littleton, N. C.

some of the money reverting to Washington could be used to advantage in this State.

Greensboro, N. C. News
Wednesday, April 13, 1932

NEGROES WOULD FARM. Land Available in South If Govern- ment or Philanthropy Will Give Them a Start.

To the New York Herald Tribune:

The plan to reduce unemployment in the north by returning thousands of negroes to the farms in the south, as reported recently in your paper by Mr. Mark Sullivan, would be hailed with delight and profit by thousands and thousands of self-respecting negroes provided: The government and philanthropy would first prepare a place for them. "Back to the Farm," "Stay on the Farm" was the advice and admonition of Booker T. Washington, the greatest negro Moses the negro people have ever had. If the black man on the farm will farm to make a living he will get wealthy, but if he farms to get rich he will make a failure.

There are tens of thousands of acres of fertile farm lands in the south capable of producing 50 bushels of corn, or 50 bushels of wheat, or two tons of hay or a bale of cotton an acre, that can be bought for \$2 an

acre, and thousands of acres can be bought even for the taxes an acre. Now if the United States government or philanthropy will buy up these lands, divide them into small farms, say 30 or 40 acres to the farmer, equip them with houses, barns, stables, mules, farm implements, feed stuff for stock and rations for farmers just for the first six months, place the farms under competent farm superintendents, then charge the farmers a rate of annual rent for the lands that will in the course of specified time be equal to the cost of the investment, and when all rentals are paid give the farmer a fee simple deed for said farm land—I warrant you if this plan is carried out that the north nor the south, the east nor the west will never be concerned by the unemployment situation of the black man.

He would not be a ward or a charge of the government like the Indians on their reservation, that cost our government millions of dollars for their upkeep; but the negroes would constitute colonies of independent farm land owners. There would be no peonage, debt, slavery, lynching, mob violence, nor intermarriage, and it would be the first opportunity that the negro farmer would have to carry out the injunction of our great North Carolina governor, Gardner, "Live at Home."

I have permission from Hugh McRae, capitalist of Wilmington, N. C., and greatest farm colonizer for whites in eastern Carolina, to say; that he indorses such a plan for the negro farmer of the south and feels certain in a very short time he would become self-sustaining and sometimes wealthy.

I want to say here for the information of citizens who might seem inclined to rush the negroes back south in train loads and cargoes that because of the white farmland owners' failure "to farm to make a living" that most of them are so impoverished that they are unable to furnish their negro tenants any more than \$1.50 to \$2.50 a week a family during the six months or 14 hours a day on the farm required to make the crop.

As to the negroes' future in the United States; I would say, because of the race's inability to give high grade employment to the thousands of college men and women that are economically adrift, it would be wisdom for states and philanthropy to stress the agricultural, industrial and

common school accomplishments of the race until the race would become economically strong enough to support and give employment to its college and professional men and women. Colonies of independent negro farm land owners would be the nucleus for such a prosperous and independent race supporting situation, for the future negro.

W. P. Evans.

Laurinburg, N. C. Feb. 27, 1932.

SIZE OF FARMS: 1 Chapel Hill, N. C.

SIZE OF FARMS BY RACES

North Carolina is a state of small farms, even counting all land held by farmers—improved and unimproved. The average farm in the state contains only sixty-four-and-a-half acres, of which about twenty-one acres are in harvested crops. Our farms average small compared with those of other states, while the average of cultivated acres per farm is the smallest in the United States. The farm unit in North Carolina is a small unit. Farming generally is on a small-scale basis. There are a few large farms. Also there are many farms much below the state average in size.

The table which appears in this issue of the News Letter shows the size of farms by races and by tenure. Some very interesting and significant facts are revealed by studying the data. As would be expected the average size of farms operated by white farmers is larger than the average size of farms operated by Negro farmers—seventy-two acres for whites and forty-four for Negroes. This covers all land, improved and unimproved.

In Moore county the average white farmer operates one hundred and twenty acres. In Wilson county the average acreage operated by white farmers is only forty. The state average is seventy-two acres. The average Negro farmer operates forty-four acres of land, ranging from eighty-three acres in Dare to eleven acres in Madison.

One-half of all the land operated by Negroes is in harvested crops. Only one-third of the land operated by white farmers is in harvested crops. In other words, the white farmers hold the bulk of the idle farm lands, including the woods land.

Owners vs. Tenants

The effective part of a farm is that part which is under cultivation. The state average amount of land in harvested crops is only 20.3 acres for

the white full owners, and 17.6 acres eastern section of the state. The palm for the Negro full owners. In other for large farms generally goes to the words there is not much difference between the amount of land cultivated for North Carolina.

by white and Negro owners. It is fair to mention in this connection that Carolina are small everywhere compared with most states of the Union. pasture land, the bulk of which is operated by white farm owners. There are eight counties where Negro owners cultivate more land per farm than the states? When we recall that only white owners.

More interesting is the fact that harvested crops we can easily imagine the average Negro tenant cultivates that we have the smallest cultivated more land than the average white ten-farms of all the states. Considerably ant, twenty-two acres for Negro ten-more than twenty percent of the state ants and nineteen for white tenants. is well-suited to crop production, and There seems to be for each section of most likely larger cultivated acreage the state a rather standard-size ten-per farm would mean larger incomes ant farm. The amount of land cultivated by white and Negro tenants varies only slightly for the respective counties. Currituck, for instance, has the largest tenant farms, white and Negro. White and Negro tenants follow the same system of farming in the same county—grow the same crops, use the same machinery, apply the same amount of labor, and thus can care for only a certain number of acres of land. For some reason or other the average Negro tenant cultivates three acres more than the average white tenant, although in a majority of counties the white tenant cultivate a little more land than the Negro tenants. White tenants are found over the entire state. Negro tenants are more concentrated in the cotton and tobacco counties.

Where Farms Are Largest

The largest farms in the state, counting all farm land, are concentrated mainly in the eastern part of the Piedmont or the counties just west of the fall line, and the eastern counties along the Virginia border. As a rule the small farms, counting all land, are in the central-eastern and southeastern, and the far western parts of the state.

The crop acreage per farm owner, white and Negro, is largest in the cotton and tobacco producing counties. The average crop acreage per farm in the mountain counties is very small indeed, averaging around ten acres. However, there is considerable pasture land in this area.

The counties with largest crop acreage per farm tenant are located mainly in the cotton belt, especially in the southern Piedmont, and in the north-

rated economically with wood cut from the home farm.

New methods of curing pork were studied during the earlier part of the year and there has been more than usual activity in preparing land and planting home gardens. Five community clubs in Harnett county are pushing garden work among the members and neighbors.

Mitchell says also that the Negro farmers have been given demonstrations in how to prune fruit trees for better crops this season, to cull poultry for higher egg production, to run terraces to prevent soil erosion and to plant spring oats for a hay supply. In general, Mitchell finds that Negro farmers realize they are fortunate in having food and feed for this year and are planning similar lines of farming for this year. It is not unusual to find such farmers having a surplus of pigs, sweet potatoes, and other food crops for sale. The more progressive say that they will cut the acreage to some cash crops in half this year and will plant such acres to food and feed

BETTER FARMING DONE

BY NEGROES OF STATE

Activities of Negro farmers for the first quarter of 1932 indicate that interest is shifting from the old routine planting of cotton, corn and tobacco to more varied farm enterprises, according to a summary statement made by John W. Mitchell, negro district agent for the State College Extension Service.

Mitchell reports that agricultural outlook meetings were held in January and Feb. in nineteen counties with large colored populations and that these meetings were well attended. E. Y. Floyd, tobacco specialist, was invited to address a number of gatherings in the tobacco growing section in an effort to have the acreage reduced and more attention placed on quality weed. A big acreage in lespedeza is in sight for this year as increased plantings are noted in every county with a Negro farm agent.

Especially have the colored farmers given more attention to brooding and raising flocks of chickens this season. The cheap brick brooder which may be made at home with low cost has been responsible for this interest to a great extent, says Mitchell. The local agents have assisted in building the brooders and in showing how they may be operated.

Agriculture-1932

North Carolina

Condition of
WILMINGTON, N. C.
STAR

MAY 18 1932

TENANT FARMING

A significant note on farm conditions in eastern North Carolina is contained in the following from the *University News Letter*:

"The effective part of a farm is that part which is under cultivation. The state average amount of land in harvested crops is only 20.3 acres for the white full owners, and 17.6 acres for the negro full owners. In other words there is not much difference between the amount of land cultivated by white and negro owners. It is fair to mention in this connection that crop land does not include improved pasture land, the bulk of which is operated by white farm owners. There are eight counties where negro owners cultivate more land per farm than white owners.

"More interesting is the fact that the average negro tenant cultivates more land than the average white tenant, twenty-two acres for negro tenants and nineteen for white tenants. There seems to be for each section of the state a rather standard-size tenant farm. The amount of land cultivated by white and negro tenants varies only slightly for the respective counties. Currituck, for instance, has the largest tenant farms, white and negro. White and negro tenants follow the same system of farming in the same county—grow the same crops, use the same machinery, apply the same amount of labor, and thus can care for only a certain number of acres of land. For some reason or other the average negro tenant cultivates three more than the average white tenant, although in a majority of counties the white tenants cultivate a little more land than the negro tenants. White tenants are found over the entire state. Negro tenants are more concentrated in the cotton and tobacco counties."

NEW BERN, N. C.

The Size of Craven Farms
SUN JOURNAL

The average size of farms in Craven county, all acreage included, is 71.7 acres for the white farmer and 39.3 for the colored farmer. The average in the county is a little less than the average in the state, for the state figures give the white farmer 72 acres and the colored farmer 44.1 acres.

MAY 25 1932

When consideration is given the aver-

age acreage in crops, the white farm owner has an average of 25.4 acres and the white tenant 16.7 acres; while the colored owner has 16.3 acres and the colored tenant 18.4 acres. In the state the white owner's average acreage in crops is 20.3 and the white tenant has 19.2 acres in crops, while the colored owner has 17.6 acres in crops and the colored tenant 22 acres.

The white owner in Craven county has 4.2 more acres in crops than the average white owner in the state, while the colored owner has 1.3 acres less in crops than the average colored owner in the state. The white tenant in the county puts 2.5 fewer acres in crops than the state average for white tenants, and the colored tenant is asked to put 3.6 acres less in crops than the general average for colored tenants of the state.

It must be remembered, however, that there is very little waste land in an acre of Craven county land cleared and in cultivation. That is not true in other sections of the state. In any considerable acreage in cultivation in the central and western parts of the state there are gulches and rocks which materially reduce the portion in cultivation. It is only the valley farms which are the exception.

CONCORD, N. C.

TRIBUNE

MAY 25 1932

STATE OF SMALL FARMS.

S. H. Hobbs, Jr., in The University News Letter gives facts and figures showing that North Carolina is a State of small farms, even counting all land held by farmers—improved and un-

improved. The average farm in the State contains only sixty-four and a half acres, of which about twenty-one acres are in harvested crops. Our farms average small compared with those of other states, while the average of cultivated acres per farm is the smallest in the United States. The farm unit in North Carolina is a small unit. Farming generally is one a small-scale basis. There are a few large farms. Also

there are many farms much below the State average in size. The average size of farms operated by white farmers is larger than the average size of farms operated by negro farmers—seventy-two acres for whites and forty-four for negroes. This covers all land, improved and unimproved.

In Moore county the average white farmer operates one hundred and twenty acres. In Wilson county the average acreage operated by white farmers is only forty. The State average is seventy-two acres.

The average negro farmer operates forty-four acres of land, ranging from eighty-three acres in Dare to eleven acres in Madison.

One-half of all the land operated by negroes is in harvested crops. Only one-third of the land operated by white farmers is in harvested crops. In other words, the white farmers hold the bulk of the idle farm lands, including the woods land.

The effective part of a farm is that part which is under cultivation. The State average amount of land in harvested crops is only 20.3 acres for the white full owners, and 17.6 acres for the negro full owners. In other words, there is not much difference between the amount of land cultivated by white and negro owners. It is fair to mention in this connection that crop land does not include improved pasture land, the bulk of which is operated by white farm owners. There are eight counties where negro owners cultivate more land per farm than white owners.

More interesting is the fact that the average negro tenant cultivates more land than the average white tenant, twenty-two acres for negro tenants and nineteen for white tenants.

There seems to be for each section of the State a rather standard-size tenant farm. The amount of land cultivated by white and negro tenants varies only slightly for the respective counties. Currituck, for instance, has the largest tenant farms, white and negro. White and negro tenants follow the same system of farming in the same county—grow the same crops, use the same machinery, apply the same amount of labor, and thus can care for only a certain number of acres of land. For some reason or other the average negro tenant cultivates three acres

more than the average white tenant, although in a majority of counties the white tenants cultivate a little more land than the negro tenants. White tenants are found over the entire

State. Negro tenants are more concentrated in the cotton and tobacco counties. The largest farms in the state, counting all farm-land, are concentrated mainly in the eastern part of the Piedmont or the counties just west of the fall line, and the eastern counties along the Virginia border. As a rule the small farms, counting all land, are in the central-eastern and southeastern, and the far western parts of the State.

WILSON, N. C.
TIMES

JUN 29 1932

CULTIVATE MORE
ACRES PER FARM

According to Statement Compiled by Bureau of Agricultural Economics Approximately 170,000 Farms or About 60 Per Cent of Farms in North Carolina Harvest Only 20 Crop Acres or Less Per Year.

GUY A. CARDWELL

Agricultural and Industrial Agent
Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Co.

It is well known that the earning power of the Southern farm family is low compared with farm families in other sections. Without making a comparative study we are assuming that this is due to lack of balance between crops and livestock, and further to the small number of acres cultivated in the South.

According to a statement compiled by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture, approximately 65,000 farms, or about 40 per cent of the farms in South Carolina harvest only 20 crop acres or less per year.

The great agricultural State of North Carolina, the home of diversified crops, makes an even worse showing than South Carolina for approximately 170,000 farms, or about 60 per cent of the farms in North Carolina harvest only 20 crop acres or less per year.

Professor S. H. Hobbs, Jr., University of North Carolina, states

"The average farm in the state contains only 64 1-4 acres, of which about 21 acres are in harvested

crops. Our farms average small labor efficiency is very low. In at- compared with those of other states, tempting a "live-at-home" program, while the average of cultivated acres he cannot cultivate sufficient acre- per farm is the smallest in the Unit- age in feed crops along with ample ed States. The farm unit in North acreage in money crops."

Carolina is a small unit. Farming "From records on demonstrations generally is on a small-scale basis, with two-horse machinery it has been shown that a man with a two-mule There are a few large farms. Also team can at least double his labor, there are many farms much below efficiency, and certainly this is the the state average in size." smallest unit that should be used

Quoting further from Professor Hobbs: on South Carolina farms if operators would survive the present severe economic conditions."

"The effective part of a farm is that part which is under cultivation. The state average amount of land in harvested crops is only 20.3 acres for the white full owners, and 17.6 acres for the Negro full owners. In other words there is not much difference between the amount of land cultivated by white and Negro owners. It is fair to mention in this connection that crop land does not include improved pasture land, the bulk of which is operated by white farm owners. There are eight counties where Negro owners cultivate more land per farm than white owners.

More interesting is the fact that the average Negro tenant cultivates more land than the average white tenant, 22 acres for Negro tenants and 19 for white tenants. There seems to be for each section of the state a rather standard-size tenant farm. The amount of land cultivated by white and Negro tenants varies only slightly for the respective counties. For some reason or other the average Negro tenant cultivates three acres more than the average white tenant, although in a majority of counties the white tenants cultivate a little more land than the Negro tenants. White tenants are found over the entire State. Negro tenants are more concentrated in the cotton and tobacco counties."

Professor Hobbs concludes with this statement: "When we recall that only 20 per cent of our total area is in harvested crops we can easily imagine that we have the smallest cultivated farms of all the states. Considerably more than 20 per cent of the state is well suited to crop production, and most likely larger cultivated acreage per farm would mean larger incomes and higher standards of farm life. For one thing, more livestock would enable us to make better use of our farm land resources."

J. T. McAlister, Extension Agricultural Engineer, Clemson College, South Carolina, in referring to the South Carolina situation states:

"With an abundance of land in the state idle, it should be a simple matter to enlarge crop acres per farm. Farm operations for a very long period have been organized around the one-mule unit. Necessary operations, with seasonal limitations cannot be performed on a greater acreage with this power unit. Since man's time is worth no more than that of the animal he directs, his

"There is always plenty of work to do on the well managed diversified farm, and labor saved in field work could be used else where in carrying on livestock enterprises. But the farm must be organized to produce feed before it can produce livestock. The fact that so many farms are so poorly equipped for this purpose may be the cause of the great difficulty in getting them on a livestock or at least a live-at-home program."

NEW BERN, N. C.
SUN JOURNAL

III 13 1932

Increasing Cultivated Land

If the future of North Carolina farming depends in a large measure upon the cultivating of larger acreage per farm, and there are many who contend that it does, farmers of this level section of eastern North Carolina may expect to have a decided advantage over those of other sections of this state and those of other states. As yet no limit has been reached to the size of eastern Carolina farms. Great areas need only clearing, while easy draining will enable the cultivation of an added thousands of acres.

Discussing the low earning power of the Southern farm family as compared with farm families in other sections, Guy A. Cardwell, agricultural and industrial agent of the Atlantic Coast Line, assumes that it is due to lack of balance between crop and livestock, and further to the smaller number of acres cultivated in the South. He shows with Federal figures that in South Carolina 65,000 farms, or about 40 per cent of the farms in the state, harvest only 20 crop acres or less per year.

The great agricultural state of North Carolina, the home of diversified crops, makes an even worse showing than South Carolina, he says, for approximately 170,-

000 farms, or about 60 per cent of the farms in North Carolina, harvest only 20 crop acres or less per year. The average farm in this state contains only 64 1-2 acres, of which about 21 acres are in harvested crops.

"Our farms average is small compared with those of other states, while the average of cultivated acres per farm is the smallest in the United States," Mr. Cardwell quotes Prof. S. H. Hobbs of the University of North Carolina as saying. "The effective part of a farm is that part which is under cultivation, and the average amount of land in harvested crops in this state is only 20.3 acres for the white full owners, and 17.6 for the negro full owners."

There immediately arises, of course, the question of the disposal of farm produce from an increased acreage. In Craven county now, by special permission of extension department authorities, the county agent is at work on the problem of markets. Though no announcement has been made as to results, it is safe now to say that the end of the crop year will see a remarkable record established.

Condition

READING NEWSPAPERS IN N. C.

TYPES OF FARMS IN N. C.

The 1930 census, for the first time collected information for classifying farms by types. There are nineteen types in the detailed data, but only three or four that are of much concern so far as North Carolina is concerned. 10-12-32

There are approximately two hundred and eighty thousand farms in the state. In round numbers, seventy-seven thousand are classed as cotton farms, where more than forty percent of the value of all products was

cotton. One hundred and four thousand farms are classed as crop specialty, meaning mainly tobacco, along with farms where peanuts, soy beans, potatoes or some other minor field crop produced as much as forty percent of the total value of products. In general we can say that there are nearly one hundred and eighty thousand cotton or tobacco, or cotton and tobacco farms in the state. On a large percent of these little besides cotton or tobacco or both is grown.

There are twenty-seven thousand general farms, farms where no one product amounts to as much as forty percent of the total value of products grown.

There are 34,422 farms classed as self-sufficing, where fifty percent or more of the value of farm products was used by the operator's family.

There were only 2,525 dairy farms, and less than two thousand animal-specialty farms in the state. There were only fifty-seven hundred farms in the state where livestock of one form or another dominated over crops, against one hundred and eighty thousand cotton-tobacco-peanuts farms. The dairy farms are largely in the urban counties, and other livestock farms largely in the mountain area.

The following table gives the number of farms by types for the year 1930:

Type	Number
All types	279,908
Crop specialty (tobacco, esp.)	103,813
Cotton	77,116
Self-sufficing	34,422

General	26,956
Abnormal*	15,713
Dairy	2,525
Animal-specialty	1,985
Fruit	1,665
Truck	1,226
Poultry	1,080
Cash-grain	1,058
Stock ranch	127
Not classified	12,032

*Abnormal covers institutional farms, country estates, boarding, forest products, horse farms.

Vary by Regions

It is interesting to note how different are the types of farming practiced in different parts of the state. In Ashe county up in the mountains there are 3,600 farms. Nearly half of these are self-sufficing, and nearly one thousand others are classed as general. Everything is food crops or livestock.

Anson along the South Carolina border has 3,172 farms. Of these 2,725 are cotton farms.

Cleveland has 5,181 farms, of which 4,894 are classed as cotton farms. Only 27 dairy farms in the county; not a cash-grain farm; not a tobacco, potato, hay or forage farm; not a fruit or truck farm.

Davidson and Randolph are among the counties with a wide variety of types of farms. Farming is diversified.

In Pitt and Edgecombe practically all farms are classed as cotton or tobacco.

Scotland has 1,896 farms, 1,771 of which are classed as cotton farms. There is one dairy farm. No other farm in the county where livestock dominates over crops.

In Watauga, Wilkes, Yancey, farming is general and self-sufficing.

Wilson county has 4,734 farms, on 4,387 of which tobacco dominates, and 198 cotton. There are just six farms where livestock is more important than cotton or tobacco, the six being dairy farms. No fruit, truck, animal-specialty, stock, or poultry farm in the entire county.

Probably Greene county gets the prize. Greene has 3,260 farms. of

which 3,154 are crop-specialty—tobacco, 38 are cotton, 16 are general, and 10 are self-sufficing. Not a grain, fruit, truck, dairy, animal-specialty, stock, or poultry farm in the whole county. Just cotton and tobacco, and not so much cotton.

It is probable that North Carolina has headed more into food, feed, and livestock farming since 1930. We hope so. We could not travel far in the other direction, for sheer lack of room, especially in the sixty or seventy so-called cash crop counties.—S.H.H., Jr.

Washington, N. C. Progress
Thursday, December 8, 1932

NEGRO FARMERS

ARE FARMING TO
LIVE IN PARMELE

Up Parmele way, farming for a living is very marked among a number of colored farmers, both landowners and tenants, the successful practice of getting its beginning in a series of farm meetings planned by Claudius Chance and held in the training school there. As a result of these gatherings there has developed a cooperative spirit, a friendly, helpful attitude and a better understanding between the landlord and the tenant farmer.

The meeting last week was held primarily for a check of the results of the rallies of last spring. That they brought results was evidenced by the reports of many colored farmers. Several said they cut down fertilizer and other expenses and had plenty of meat, milk, butter, potatoes, corn, peas and chickens and eggs. In short, many are practicing the slogan of live at home. One farmer said he had plenty to run him, and does not owe any man a dollar. He owes taxes and has plenty in sight to pay them.

The colored farm demonstrator, Oliver Carter, made a brief report, and expressed gratification at the results of better farming and the hopeful outlook for the colored farmers of Martin county.

The white speakers were Messrs. H. V. Staton of Bethel, C. H. Hudson, director of farm demonstration work in the state, and J. M. Perry of Robersonville. Mr. Hudson outlined a program for the farmer for another year. He warned the farmer against the old fallacy of planting more money crops in the hope his neighbors would cut theirs. In fact, he was emphatic in his warning that the other farmer was going to do the identical thing. He also recommended better gardens and more poultry in the live-at-home program. "The mistake farmers of Eastern North Carolina have made has been farming to make money," Mr. Hudson said. "Farm to make a living, and then raise as much money crops as you can take care of, and raise to an advantage and at profit."

He also warned against farming poor, worthless land, which is not only not profitable, but cuts down your average on the good acres that are available and profitable.

The meeting was perhaps the most helpful and encouraging of the series of farm rallies held there during the past year or more.

RALEIGH, N. C.
NEWS OBSERVER

NOV 1 1932
FIVE POINTS

Mr. Hugh McRae, of Wilmington, who has over a period of years given much thought and study to the agricultural and industrial development of the South, has promulgated a five-point program for Southern advance.

Mr. McRae stated that the South is "suffering tremendously from the devastating adverse balance of trade by which the South loses \$1,000,000,000 each year." To readjust the balance Mr. McRae advises:

1. To strengthen, diversify and make more self-sufficient the economic position of the States—Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.
2. To awaken and utilize the highly valuable but undeveloped markets at the South's doors.
3. To popularize the great variety of manufactured and agricultural products of the Southeastern States among their own people as well as those outside the area.

4. To serve as a clearing house for successful methods or policies in agriculture, forestry, commerce, industry, transportation, public utility service and social service.

5. To find and give publicity to facts that will make all the above possible.

Mr. McRae might have grown more specific. There are a number of specific things the South must do if it is to grow to the economic level of the other States of the nation. Thus, to add five to Mr. McRae's five:

1. The South must come to a policy of higher wages for workers.

2. The textile mills of the South, for their own and the South's advantage, must learn to co-operate to prevent over-production and price-slashing.

3. Every effort must be continued to bring the Southern farmer to self-sufficiency instead of single dependence upon cash crops.

4. The economic status of the Negro in the South must be accepted as the base upon which the economic status of the whole South depends.

5. Individualistic manufacturers must be brought to acceptance of the principles of collective bargaining and the unionization of their workers.

South Carolina.

Agriculture - 1112

Condition of.

COLUMBIA, S. C.
STATE

JUN 20 1932

Provident Negro Farmer.

Mullins Enterprise.

We know one Negro farmer who has over 80 cans of beans to his credit, and just waiting for other things to come in. Farmers are going to have to conserve the products from their farms. By doing so they will take a long forward step toward building up the independence of our state. We would like to hear from those who reach 100 or more of cans.

Condition of Negro Farmers Are Threatened in Tenn.

HUMBOLDT, Tenn.—Bands of night riders are terrorizing Negro tenant farmers in the Fruitland and Edison communities, near here, officials disclosed today.

Sheriff Bradshaw said the riders had posted warnings on the homes of the tenant farmers that they "must leave the community in ten days."

"A certain class of white farmers, unable to pay rent are trying to force out the Negro tenants in order to get their places," the sheriff added.

One man has been arrested under an old night-riding statute.

WILL URGE NEGROES BACK TO THE FARM

MEMPHIS, Tenn., June 9.—(C. Monroe and Rankin, the last three N. S.)—"After touring the country, of which lost respectively 4,469, 3,481 and 2,950 of their Negro population since 1910.

Chattanooga, Tenn.
NEWS

SEP 2 1932
Sound Economics.
(Kinston Free Press.)

A Negro farmer sold some huckleberries in the residential section here and remarked to one customer that it was the last of the crop, but he added, "I picked a lot of them and my wife put up enough in cans to last us all winter. I just thought I would bring these that we had left over to town to sell." Come to think about it, this colored brother is operating on a most sound economic basis. More living at home with the sale of the surplus for pin money is necessary to a restoration of real prosperity in these parts.

In asking "the unstinted cooperation of every true American in his work" Williamson said: "The Negro is a natural farm hand, and if he turns his back on the farm he is headed for the rocks. I find thousands of Negroes in cities unemployed, living useless lives and breeding diseases; these Negroes mostly came from the farm; they should be advised to return to the farm. Good homes, churches and schools must be built on the farms for these people, to make them useful people."

Williamson claims his meetings are mostly held in court houses and other public places under the directions of the county and city authorities who appointed a committee from leading Negroes to cooperate with him.

His itinerary for May included engagements in Forrest, Leake, Madison, Neshoba, Jones, Lumbard

Condition of LAW RESTRICTING PLANTING OF COTTON UNCONSTITUTIONAL

FRANKLIN, Texas, Feb. 11.—The first test case arising under the recently enacted state law to limit the amount of land used for raising cotton in the state, resulted last week in the state judge declaring the law to be unconstitutional.

Agriculture-1932
Condition of.

LARGER FARMS MOST LIKELY TO MAKE PROFITS

Less Efficiently Man- aged, Small Farms Report Losses

Special to Journal and Guide

HAMPTON, Va.—The Hampton Institute agricultural extension department recently completed and has just made public the results of a farm management survey of the Negro farmers of Nansemond County, Va., conducted with the cooperation of the United States bureau of agricultural economics.

The survey included 148 owners and 59 tenants. The facts when summarized and interpreted indicated that the largest and best managed farms are returning the highest profits.

The labor income was used as a criterion for judging their efficiency as farm managers. The farms were classified as low, middle, and high, with respect to size, yields per acre, efficiency of labor, and economy in capital and investment. The average labor income was then calculated separately for each group.

Findings Summarized

Under the heading, size of business, the small farms showed an average loss of \$1.00, the medium ones a \$12 profit, and the large ones a \$35 profit. The crop-yields-per-acre findings credited the low class farms with an average loss of \$176, with the medium and high class farms profits being \$56 and \$255 respectively.

In efficiency of labor the least efficient farms reported losses averaging \$262, but the medium and most efficient farms' profits were, respectively, \$56 and \$294.

Under the heading, number of years required for receipts to equal investments, most of the farms reported average losses of \$412. The medium class had an average profit of \$56. A smaller number of farms reported an average profit of \$446.

Improvement of

Montgomery, Ala. Advertiser

Saturday, April 16, 1932

Farming Agencies In Demonstration

Approximately 300 farmers and business men representing Montgomery and adjoining counties, gathered at the International Harvester Company demonstration farm on the Taylor Road Friday, saw the newest types of farm machinery in use, and learned from experts how they may be used to an advantage on the average farm in the Black Belt. Among the gathering was a number of negroes from Tuskegee Institute, and successful negro farmers of Montgomery County.

The demonstrations began promptly at 10:30 a.m., when a tractor-drawn plow was used in a field of oats and Austrian Winter peas to illustrate the turning under of a cover crop, preparatory to making the land ready for planting corn. There followed demonstrations in the tractor-drawn machine to carry out the operations of harrowing, making rows, preparing drills and planting seed at one time; plowing with a pasture plow, and operating the feed grinder. Inspection of the farm's poultry plant was also made, and a milking machine demonstration was given.

W. R. Taylor, Montgomery dealer in farm implements, loaned the machines and supervised all demonstrations.

H. S. Mobley, field representative of the International Harvester Company, gave a demonstration in the selection of seed corn, and spoke briefly on what the I. H. C. farm is attempting to do. J. B. Wilson of the extension division, agricultural and engineering department of Auburn, pointed out that operating capital and not fixed capital gave the better chance of farming at a profit. Lem A. Edmondson, county agent, presided.

Lunch was served at noon by Mr. and Mrs. Josh Gillespie, of the I. H. C. farm.

Council Adjourns, Program To Balance Trade Complete

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Nov. 30.—(P)—Choosing the same leadership for another year, the Southeastern Council today had in conference for the program of balancing the trade of the South—how off balance approximately \$1,000,000,000 annually.

Hugh MacRae, of Wilmington, N. C., was reelected president, and Donald Comer, Birmingham industrialist, and Miss Jenn Coltrane, of Concord, N. C., continued as vice presidents-at-large and his lieutenants.

During the two days' session, closing today, leaders from industry, finance, transportation, education, and agriculture discussed the economic ills of the South and each in turn made suggestions as to a probable method of correction.

In round table discussions, the various phases of human endeavor were analyzed and from these reports and recommendations were made today as a basis of furthering the work of the council.

Chairmen of committees on health, recreation and social service, industry, transportation, banking, forestry, power, public utility, and agriculture, reported to the council and made recommendations which in each instance were adopted.

Form Basis Of Action

These recommendations form the basis of action for the coming year. Attention was directed to the plight of the railroads by O. A. Kirkman, of High Point, N. C., in remarks submitted with his report on transportation.

Southern consumers, he said, were in danger of being placed at a disadvantage on rates which would "regionalize industry" and suggested that the council watch closely proposed legislation and traffic schedules.

Unanimous approval was given the recommendations of the banking committee presented by M. F. Wittmeier, of Oneonta, Ala., vice president of the Alabama Bankers Association.

This recommendation was that bankers more closely cooperate with farmers and experiment stations with a view of lending aid and restoring agriculture to a state of prosperity. "We want the farmer to be his own first customer," Mr. Wittmeier said.

A general policy of forestry which each State should adopt to its own use with the Council's aid was recommended by the committee on forestry, of which Murray K. Burner, of Louisville, Ky., is chairman.

This program, as outlined, would include teaching of forestry in schools and colleges, extension of fire protection, wild life preservation, and public hunting parks, survey of idle lands with a view to reforestation, particularly abandoned

lands, establishment of State nurseries for supplying planting stock, and Governmental financial aid in the program of reforestation.

Newspapers Recommended

The Council endorsed the recommendations of the committee of publicity to utilize newspapers as their first medium of carrying the message to the public. Bruce Webb, of The Asheville, N. C., Times, told the Council in making the report that it would be necessary to prepare messages as newspapers wanted them if the matter was to be effective.

The publicity committee recommended adoption of a slogan labeling Southern products as to designate the section in which manufactured, establishment of a speakers' bureau, clipping bureau, and press bureaus in each State.

The industrial committee, Comer told the Council, had launched a drive through each line of manufacture to locate the most successful operator in each, and his story in pamphlet form will be passed on to others.

The farmer and his problem which was dominant throughout the two-day meeting was summed up by the agriculture committee which recommended that a campaign of education to eradicate the one cash crop and tenant system.

Alabama Board Praised

MacRae, in making the report called attention to programs at Moultrie, Ga., Cleveland County, N. C., and the work of the Alabama Industrial and Development Board.

In the final address of the convention, David R. Coker, of Hartsville, S. C., told the Council "the cotton industry in the South, I sometimes think, both from the standpoint of the producer and the manufacturer, is about the worst handled of American industries."

"There are Southern mills today who are shipping cotton 1,000 miles to their mills when cotton of the same length and better character is produced in quantities at their very doors."

Increased length of staple through careful selection of seed to increase production also, he said, would place the Eastern portion of the belt in a position to compete with the Western part of the belt.

Mr. Coker, among other recommendations, submitted a plan of farming large areas after the "best cooperation methods" and of small farm ownership with intensified diversification.

"Agriculture is basic, but we have other things to do than to consider one subject alone," J. C. Sellers, of The Florida Times-Union at Jacksonville, told the Council. "The purpose of the Council concerns itself with all the people."

He described as some of the activities that should engage its attention, education, health, recreation, and culture.

Selection of a 1933 convention city was left to the executive committee with an invitation from the Florida Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the State. A bid from Pensacola and from Biloxi, Miss., and Louisville, Ky., are under consideration.

Vice-Chairmen Elected

State vice chairmen elected were: Alabama: Tom Bowron and Mrs. I. T. Quinn; Florida: J. C. Sellers and Mrs. Marcus C. Fagg; Georgia: W. E. Page and Mrs. Frances J. Vaughan; Kentucky: J. R. Gelb and Miss Louise C. Morel; Mississippi: L. O. Crosby and Mrs. Allen S. Woodward; North Carolina: Bruce Webb and Mrs. Charles Going Woodhouse; Tennessee: W. E. Brock and Judge Camille Kelly; South Carolina: Mrs. W. D. McGinnis.

Miss Coltrane, vice president for women's activities, told the Council that the women of the Southeast would lend every possible cooperation in carrying forward to the goal of a prosperous South.

"American civilization is being challenged," Miss Coltrane said. "Seed are being sown the world over that America has failed, x x x There is a definite movement to destroy America because America is a Christian civilization."

"Women have failed in politics," she said, "because they copied the men. x x x In the next five years, you will find women of the Southeast have accepted the challenge given them."

Methods of taking to the public the message of the Southeast were discussed by Karl Lehmann, of Sanford, Fla., who told the Council that, if the campaign was to succeed, it must be through carrying the message to the people.

He suggested that each State take advantage of the Chicago Exposition in 1933 as a medium of popularizing products.

A NEEDED ORGANIZATION.

Wise counsel is given to the business, industrial and agricultural interests in the south by Howard E. Coffin, president of General Textiles, in the advice that there be built up in this section a "well-rounded organization which can carry forward through subcommittees, organized in a practical and comprehensive way, a wide variety of activities at the same time."

Mr. Coffin spoke in Birmingham before a gathering of industrial, financial, agricultural and educational leaders of eight states, called together by the southeastern council for the purpose of formulating a program designed to restore economic soundness.

In no section of the country is such an organization more vitally necessary. Until recent years the south has been almost entirely agri-

cultural, but within the last quarter of a century its industry has made far-reaching strides forward.

The development of southern industry should have resulted in better balanced, more economical and efficient business conditions than now exist. That it has not done so is largely due, as expressed at the Birmingham meeting by Hugh MacRae, of Wilmington, N. C., to the existence of a "no man's land" between agriculture and industry, and the continuation, in the same speaker's opinion, of an agricultural system which is "the worst in any civilized land."

Until there is a closer liaison between these great natural resources of mine and field and our new and fast-growing industry, we will not reap the prosperity to which we are entitled. The development of the Southeastern Council, or some other similar institution, along the lines suggested by Mr. Coffin, would undoubtedly go far towards the elimination of the economic "no man's land" which is now retarding our progress.

Economic Council Will Form Organization To Boost South

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Nov. 29.—(P)—Foundations of a permanent organization to exploit the products of the South and to remove the "no man's land" between industry and agriculture, was laid today by the Southeastern Council in its first annual session.

With the words of speakers still fresh in their minds, Southern leaders in finance, agriculture, industry and kindred lines this afternoon gathered in 14 group meetings to formulate programs to be presented before the council tomorrow.

Into the group meetings the members of the council carried the warms from Howard E. Coffin, of New York, president of General Electric, that a sound and thorough organization was needed successfully to carry out the purposes of restoring the South's trade balance to an even keel, and they had the plea of Dr. L. N. Duncan, regent of Alabama Polytechnic Institute, for continued cooperation of the farmer and the city dweller.

"To effect sound and enduring progress," Mr. Coffin told the council, "we must build up here in the South, a well rounded organization which can carry forward through subcommittees, organized in a practical and comprehensive way, a wide variety of activities at one time."

"If we try to handle one subject at a time, we will all be dead and buried long before we effect any real progress."

Mr. Coffin suggested that the organization should be composed of two branches, one technical and manned by experts to conduct experiments and research, keeping "at work continuously within the several fields of human endeavor."

A second division, Mr. Coffin said, should be education, through which the public would be educated to and public opinion moulded to carry out the programs of the council.

The plan of the Georgia committee of 100, or the national defense committee of the war days, were cited by Mr. Coffin as effective organizations to bring about the realization of the purposes of the Southeastern Council.

Mr. Coffin turned to discussion of development of air transportation, which he said had brought all important centers in the United States within 24 hours of each other and South American countries within 36 to 24 hours of the South.

"Civilization has never turned its back upon or refused to appropriate to its progressive and expanding uses any improvement in speed and luxury of travel," he said. "Railroads," Mr. Coffin told the Council, "were fighting development of air transportation and that a move was under way to reduce the appropriation for air mail service in the guise of economy."

Dr. Duncan told the Council of many examples of what could be accomplished to restore prosperity of the farmer by cooperation of the city dweller with the producer.

"More than \$5,000,000 in Alabama farm products have been brought into the markets of this and adjoining States," he said, through cooperation of this type.

Turning to the diversification of farm products, Dr. Duncan told of seeing negro farmers in Lowndes County, in Alabama's Black Belt, receive more for the turkeys they raised than they did for their entire cotton crop.

The curb market was described as having a two-fold purpose by Dr. Duncan, who said it brought the city consumer into social and personal contact with the farm producer and often resulted in an exchange of viewpoints during a sale that resulted in mutual benefit.

"We in the South have everything we should have but cooperation," Frank P. Glass, publisher of The Montgomery Advertiser, told the council in extending a welcome.

"The banker, manufacturer and industrialist now is coming to the realization that the farmer is the 'mud sill' of the economic structure. * * * It is up to you gentlemen to restore prosperity in the South."

Problems before the Council were discussed by Dr. Bruce R. Payne, of Nashville, president of Peabody College, who said the trouble primarily lay in people having ceased to "live at home."

"We are here for the achievement of better conditions of rural life," he said. "conditions will remain the same until farm prosperity returns."

"The no man's land" between agriculture and industry was described by Hugh McRae of Wilmington, N. C., president of the council, in his statement with which he presented five recommendations, Mr. McRae termed the system of agriculture in the South "the worst in any civilized country."

His recommendations included elimination of exploitation of the South, an organization for continuance service, and elimination of antiquated customs and places in industry and agriculture, to replace them with efficient and beneficial policies.

Restoration of parity between agriculture and industry, and raising the agricultural commodity prices hold the most immediate problem for economic betterment in the United States, Gen. R. E. Wood, of Chicago, president of Sears, Roebuck and Company, told the Council tonight.

"But please bear in mind," said Gen. Wood, "that the raising of price applies only to domestic consumption. Any attempt to fix or peg a price on a world market is doomed to disaster."

Improvement of President Hubert Attends Washington, D. C., Conference

President Benj. F. Hubert of the standing specialists were selected Ga. State Ind. College has recently to carry out subject matter pro- returned from Washington, D. C. gram. Only four people from each where he attended a most important state recommended by the presi- conference called by the U. S. De- dents of the Negro Land Grant Col- partment of Agriculture Extension leges will be admitted to this Service and the Julius Rosenwald school.

Fund, January 25-26. It is thought that at some time

The conference met in the office in the future another school of all of Dr. S. L. Smith, Asst. Director the agents doing work in the south, of Extension Service for the Unit may be assembled at some central ed States. Attending the confer- point for conference, study and pro- cees besides President Hubert and gram making. It is felt by those Dr. Smith were J. A. Evans, assis- who are in a position to know, that tant chief, U. S. Extension Service these conferences and schools fos- in charge of work in the south: tered by the Julius Rosenwald Fund Mrs. Malcolm Powell, in charge of and the U. S. Department of Agri- women's work in the south; Dr. E. cultur and the various State Ex- H. Shinn, in charge of Extension tention Service, have been of far- Studies; J. B. Pierce, field agent teaching influence good. These for Extension Service, with head- three hundred and thirty-five agents quarters at Hampton, Va.; T. M. reach several million people every Campbell, field agent for U. S. EX- day, and it is to them we must turn tention Service, with headquarters in our efforts to carry the instruc- at Tuskegee, Ala.; W. R. Banks, tion of the colleges directly to the president of Prairie View State farming people who need the infor- College, Prairie View Tex.; W. J. mation most.

Hale, president, Tennessee State President Hubert returned thru Colige, Nashville, Tenn.; and Jno. Central Georgia, to inspect work on M. Gandy, president of Virginia the Log Cabin Community Center State College, Petersburg, Va. Being established in his native

The conference was called for the home community of Hancock com- purpose of deciding upon time, ty. He states that the project is place, personnel, courses of study going rapidly forward. Practical- and other matters that relate to ly all of the logs have been placed the holding of the third Julius Ros- in the building and one hundred enwald summer school for Negro ex- and fifty tons of native granite tention agents.

After a two-day discussion and chimneys. When complete, the study it was tentatively decided cabin will be over 65 feet long and to hold the summer school for 1932 will have nine rooms and spacious at Washington, D. C. This deci- porches. He states that it is plann- sion was reached because it ap- ed to keep the house open at all pears desirable to have all of the times, as it will be used for a re- agents become better acquainted creation center, conference and with the U. S. Department of Agri- reading room. This community is culture and the various boards thru in some ways the most progressive which the federal government serves Negro land owning community in the farmers of the nation. While in the country. The community house Washington, it is expected that the will be headquarters for the Asso- agents will see the splendid experi- ciation for the Advancement of Ne- mental farm in Maryland, as well gro Country Life, as other demonstrations in the cap- ital proper. A splendid list of

Agriculture-1932

Georgia

Improvement of

Wednesday, June 6, 1932

Sla very Time Days In County's History

(From Warrenton Clipper)
(By Mrs. W. F. Wilhoit, County
Historian.)

(A part of the history of Warren county now being prepared by Mrs. W. F. Wilhoit, county historian, will be given over to the Negro element in the county's population. This week's installment is a continuation of the chapter about them.—Ed.)

(Continued from last week)

Dr. Benjamin F. Hubert, the sixth child of Zack, bought the 500 acres of land which his father had left to him and his other 11 brothers and sisters. He paid the very nominal sum of \$4,000 for it, for his brothers and sisters felt there was little or no outlook for successful farming in that section. Zack and his brothers and their friends had managed to make a living; but they had worked constantly to do it.

Dr. Hubert, who is president of the Georgia Industrial college at Savannah, bought the land for several reasons. He felt that he owed it to his father to make an honest and worthy attempt to give the Negroes of the community a brighter outlook. Not only was the farm of old Zack at stake, but the farms of dozens of other Negroes who had followed him to Springfield. This Negro owns 1,200 acres of land, and his three sons own their own homes and farms on the opposite side of the highway from him. You see the small houses on a wooded ridge a few hundred feet from the highway. After five or six miles of scattered houses, all of them owned and occupied by Negroes, you

President Hubert immediately glimpsed a sturdy, brown school building with its many windows flashing in the sun. It is the Julius Rosenwald school for the black children of Springfield. It was erected several years ago

by this Northern philanthropist in recognition of the fine work that was being carried on in the community by the settlers there. The Baptist church of Springfield is the very pulse of the Springfield community, which is already the largest Negro land owning community in the United States. It has just recently added five hundred acres to this already thriving colored community by Professor Jack Hubert, of Langston, Okla. Jack Hubert is a descendant of Zack Hubert of Warren county, who helped to found the community, and though he is head of the Langston Normal School for Negroes, and is considered one of the leading educators of his race, his heart turns back to Dixie and he wants a home back in the land of his brothers.

To reach this Negro haven, you first go to Sparta and then turn North on the Atlanta highway. After about seven miles you take a right fork and motor slowly up low, round hills, and down, cool green valleys, sleeping lazily in the golden sun. Fields of cotton and corn stretch from the narrow red road to the gentle hills on the horizon.

Improvement of Where Does Negro's Big Opportunity Lie--In The Cities Or In The Country?

Former College Head Says, "In The Rural Districts"

By Z. T. HUBERT

Former President of Oklahoma
A. and M. College

IN TELLING of a single rural community in the heart of the rural South the writer suggests it as an example of what may be done all over the South under proper leadership and direction. Projects of this kind are unanswerable lessons.

In the community of Springfield (twelve miles from the nearest town or railroad) in Hancock County, Georgia, there is in process of development a real project in Negro rural improvement. The evident basis of this growth or development is the belief that community cooperation and farm ownership combined with improved methods in farming and the handling of farm produce is productive of good living contentment.

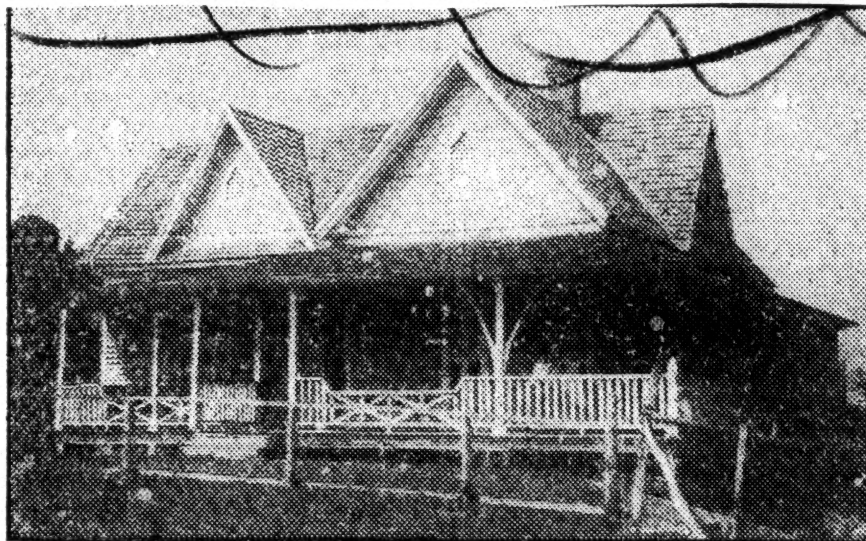
A careful study of the Springfield project and the factors making for this improvement is enlightening and happily may be suggestive to some who are at present "lost."

Good Leadership

The community for its beginning was blessed with wise leadership. Organized soon after the Civil War days by truly pioneer spirits, first to undertake the buying of land and the building of homes, the record has been one of continued, if slow, growth. All those farms purchased in the outset and since have remained in the hands of Negro owners, and today there are acres by the thousands owned in fee simple by these farmers.

Leadership and helpful cooperation account for this. The Huberts, the Dixons, the Johnsons, Warrens and others bought lands and built homes and reared families out of the products of their simple and prudent farming, and, as I remember from childhood, it was not a one crop system employed.

Strange it is that early and supposedly ignorant farmers should have known better than we; for prac-



The house is the home of John W. Hubert, the oldest son of Zach Hubert, pioneer in Springfield. He is at present principal of the high school in Savannah, Georgia, but operates a large farm in the noted community about which the accompanying story tells. He visits his farm from time to time. The house is painted, homes repaired and painted, good barns built and under construction; more and better stock in deed was the money crop but corn, wheat, oats, peas, potatoes, chick-ens, pigs, cows, horses, mules, all needed in the home life, were distinctly a part of the farming scheme. And those old people learned this out of the rigorous school of slavery.

Proper Sons and Daughters

Not the least instrumental in the continued prosperity of the Springfield community is the character of its sons and daughters. Because of the farm ownership and homing instinct grown into these children of independent living the community has been unusually successful in developing leaders. Out of the backwoods place have gone the Huberts to all parts of the country and into various walks of life; the Dixons as teachers and physicians, the Harpers in Atlanta, West at Howard University, and a host of others. And some of these have retained their home contacts and the evidence of their leadership is the communities continued and growing well-being.

A modern well-kept Rosenwald school with five good teachers; a home science division, a work-shop and equipment; headquarters for country demonstration agent; and students coming from outside communities for the educational opportunities offered here.

Condition of things here tells the story: church in good condition and

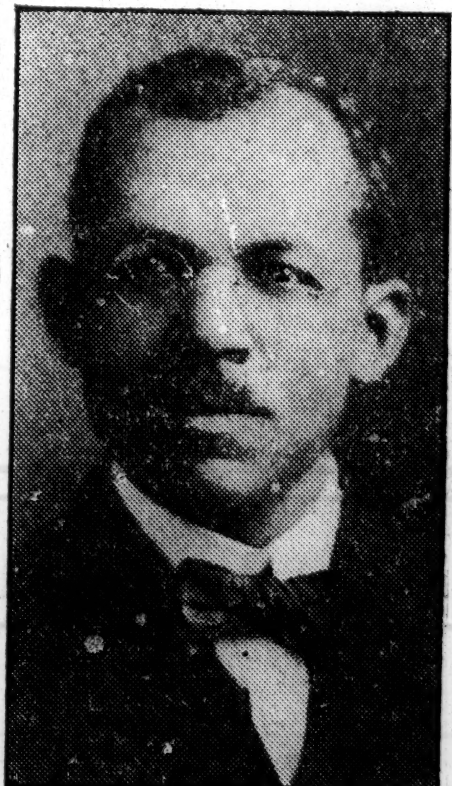
Interracial Good-Will

Statements and experiences of some learned writers and philosophers to the contrary here is a Negro-controlled land-owning rural community in which the whites of surrounding districts and of the entire county take great pride. In all sections there has never been a racial clash, and the Negroes enjoy not only the goodwill but the respect of the whites everywhere.

September last a large barbecue staged under the leadership of B. F. Hubert, president of the state college, and assisted by community leaders brought to Springfield men and both races from all sections of the county. They were celebrating the founding of the Negro land-owning community. They talked and ate and drank as other men and women do and had a really good time. Said an old justice of the peace, "but one man in thirty years has been jailed from this community and his was a minor offense."

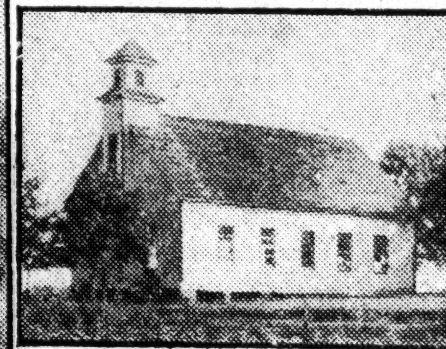


This is Zach Hubert, one of the pioneers in establishing the Springfield community. He and his two brothers were the first Negroes to own land in the whole section. He is a native of Warren County, an adjoining county to Hancock, but he with his two brothers went into Hancock County and purchased 165 acres of land and thus started what is called the most outstanding Negro land-owning community in the South. He died in 1926, at the age of 83 years.



Z. T. Hubert is the second son of Zach Hubert, and is actively interested in rural community development. He owns several hundred acres of land in Springfield community and

divides his time between Atlanta and it. He is general field agent for the Association for the Advancement of Negro Country Life and former president of Oklahoma A. & M. College.



This rural church was founded by the pioneers of the Springfield community. Zach Hubert, Gordon Dixon, Floyd Hubert, and David Hubert, more than sixty years ago. Here the people assemble and worship out in the open country.

City Life Attracts

In Atlanta, in New York, in Chicago and in many other large centers are thousands of Negroes who have left the farms of the South for gleaming lights of town life. Most of these are dependent, many helpless, and some hopeless. They have traded a great "birthright for a mess of pottage." Many wise men are now seeing this. Negroes are not alone in this for many whites have done likewise; but the farming of the South is a particular and special heritage of the Negro; the art which in mass he has best learned and upon the improved knowledge and practice of which he can win a real independence.

It is no part of my business or intention to urge city peoples' return to the farms, but I do advise those now there to remain and "dig" in. Hundreds in this season of want and depression who, coming to the cities have lost their jobs and their living, are now learning the lesson to their sorrow.

Think of the folks at Springfield and do likewise. Dr. James H. Dillard recently expressed it thus: "We beat the air with more or less vain words when we grow eloquent over others ways and means of keeping people in the country. Education, good roads and other improvements are all right, and we do well to push forward in such ways. But whatever we may do, this ownership of homes is the basic need."

Springfield is only an example of what may be duplicated in hundreds of places all over the South, and this will make for racial stabilization growth, and wealth.

Folkston, Ga., Herald

Friday, January 8, 1932

A negro farmers club near Sparta placed orders for several thousand baby chicks for February delivery, to be distributed among its members, who are to grow them for market.

NEGRO FARM BOARD

MET FEBRUARY 26th.

The negro farm board of Taliaferro county met on the above date, M. H. Hackney, Chairman, presiding.

The County Agent, W. A. Myles, distributed the homestead improvement score cards for each one of the community local advisory committee, to be given to every one who desires to enter the contest of homestead improvement.

These cards are to be signed by those who enter the contest and returned to the county agent.

It is understood that the contestants of the Homestead Improvement program are farmers who live at home and are eligible for membership.

Prizes are given to the winner in each community district, rated by three judges from different parts of the state. This Homestead Improvement score card was indorsed by the county board 100 per cent. The contest closes April 30, 1932. Prizes given.

Dr. J. H. Dixon, of Sparta, Ga., was given space for a talk on health along with farm suggestions.

The county board approved of the following as a practical guide, scheduling or limiting farms as per plow: Average land per plow, one horse, corn, 5 to 8 acres; cane 1-2 to 1 acre; sweet potatoes, 1-2 to 1 acre; Irish potatoes, 1-4 to 1 acre; Peas, 1 to 3 acres in drill; pea hay, 1 to 5 acres; cotton, 6 to 10 acres.

The community districts practically carrying out this

method through all of the 14 community farm districts, the Live-at-Home program will be solved. The county board and each one of the local advisory committees will meet Saturday, March 5th, at 2:00 o'clock, and every fortnight thereafter through March and April.

M. H. HACKNEY,

Chairman.

G. W. ATKINSON,

Sec'y County Board.

BIBB NEGRO BOY

GETS \$50 PRIZE

ON COTTON CROP

Macon, Ga.—Roy Matthews, 15-year-old negro boy of the Bloomfield road, is the champion cotton grower

among the 3,000 negro club boys of the state and Friday will receive the first prize of \$50 for his record. The prize will be awarded at the Fort Valley Ham Show and farmers conference.

His record was made on land on the George Anderson farm where his father is a share cropper. He produced 1,825 pounds of seed cotton on one acre of land. It was planted with 250 pounds of high grade fertilizer followed by a top dressing of 100 pounds of murate of potash and 100 pounds of nitrate of soda.

The work was carried on under the direction of S. H. Lee, negro county agent of Bibb, Lamar and Monroe counties and Alexander Hulse, Savannah, negro state club agent of the Georgia State Industrial college. The prize was offered by the N. V. Potash Export My, of Atlanta.

Roy is a member of the fifth grade in the Bloomfield school. His parents are Clark and Cora Matthews.

Sparta, Ga., Ishmaelite
Thursday, March 24, 1932

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REBUILDING COUNTRY LIFE

THE descriptive article on the Negro Rural Community Center in Hancock County, Georgia, printed elsewhere in this issue of the Journal and Guide, tells an interesting story of what is being done in the southern community by Negroes to make country life—life on the farm—attractive, wholesome, and satisfying.

The project, started by President Benjamin Hubert of Georgia State Industrial College, will in time be duplicated, no doubt, in other Georgia Counties, and could with profit be duplicated in every county in the South where agriculture is still the chief means of affording the people a good living. It is good not only for the Negro farmer, but could be applied with far-reaching benefits to the white farmer, resulting in a higher form of rural civilization, better understanding between the races in the areas where most friction occurs, and a far more profitable system of farming all over the South.

"Back to the Farm" movements, agitated to relieve labor conditions in the cities, and as a partial solution of the troublous times through which we are passing will have little effect until something is done to make farm life more satisfying—and what is more important—more secure. While the great majority of Negroes in America are in the South, the 780,794 that migrated North and West during the period 1916-1930 were moved largely by a desire to get away from peonage, landlord brigandage, unjust administration of laws, the

dwindling of farming resources and the unsatisfying social conditions they were forced to endure in many parts of the rural South.

Georgia still has a Negro population of 1,071,125. In the entire South there are 9,361,577. In spite of the frequent claims that Negro population is shifting from South to North there are only 2,409,219 in the North. The movement of Negroes from North and West to South during the past 20 years has offset by one-third the Southern born Negroes that have gone North. The prospects are that the bulk of Negro population in the United States will remain in the South, and such movements as the one launched by Dr. Hubert in Georgia point the way to the removal of political irritations and social handicaps that have combined to retard intellectual growth, a well-balanced social life, and economic sufficiency.

It has been pleasing to note that the Georgia movement has the wholehearted support of the press, pulpit, educational, and state administrative authorities in Georgia and the enthusiastic endorsement of many prominent men and women throughout the country who are interested in the improvement of farm life.

WORTH COUNTY HAS SOME HUSTLING COLORED FARMERS

Worth county has, perhaps, some of the best colored farmers in the state. A good many of them own their land and others are renters owning their stock and equipment.

One of the county's best farmers among the colored class who rent land and operate it as their own was here the other day. He is Dan Dorsey, living on the old Sumner place on the Scooterville road about five miles from Sylvester.

Dan had 10 acres in tobacco this year. He received a total of \$410.00 for the crop. He says he made it with scarcely any expense in the way of cash outlay. He has 25 acres in cotton and says he thinks he will get nine or ten bales. He has just finished harvesting peanuts and estimates that he will get from ten to 12 tons. He operates a three horse farm and owns his mules and equipment. He will make money this year if prices hold up.

Another one of the county's good colored farmers is Turner Lamar, living out east of Shingler. Turner owns a farm of 200 acres. It is one

of the best tracts of land in the county. He bought it in the woods years ago and developed it and paid for it with his own labor. Lamar came from Randolph county.

Improvement of.
**MANUFACTURER
SHOWS MACHINE
TO PICK COTTON**

(Picture on back page.)

Chicago Tribune
George R. Meyercord, president of the Meyercord Manufacturing company, yesterday demonstrated a mechanical cotton harvester he has perfected. The harvester, said to be the first successful device to pick cotton, passes over the stalks and revolving cogs pick the bolls of cotton. Mr. Meyercord, who is a past president of the Illinois Manufacturers' association, said that one of the machines would do the work of 60 men, but that it would not displace labor, as the decreased cost in raising cotton would multiply its consumption. Cotton, if produced mechanically, he said, can be raised profitably at a price of 6 or 7 cents a pound. Mr. Meyercord, in demonstrating the machine before members of the Illinois Manufacturers' association, said that he had experimented on it for the last six years and spent half a million dollars in perfecting it.

Agriculture-1932

Improvement of.

Real Answer To Farmer's Commercial Appeal Problem Found By Negro

Well Kept Land, Full Larder, Large And Happy
Family of Farmer In Marshall County, Miss.,

Testify To Industry

"The answer" to the mid-south farmer's problems has been found by a ~~Mississippi~~ ^{Memphis} attorney.

"I don't deserve any credit for it, though," he said. "I just happened to find the one who seems to have always had the answer."

And he launched into a true story of a negro farmer that should and will make dozens of other farmers in the tri-states very thoughtful.

"It should make the people of the tri-state territory pause and think of their own follies and mistakes, rather than their limitations," he began.

"In Marshall County, Miss., a few miles from Holly Springs, there lives a negro farmer, intelligent and fairly well educated. This negro farmer owns 1,000 acres of land, of which a substantial part is creek bottom land, and on which he doesn't owe a dollar, and all taxes are paid.

"He has 14 living children by his first and present wife. Eight of these are out in the world on their own and all are educated, some having been sent through northern colleges. They are teachers, trained nurses and occupying other gainful occupations.

"The home is a rambling farm house, consisting of seven rooms, including a sizeable and clean bath and toilet room. It is lighted by electricity supplied by a small light plant, and the water supply is pumped from a deep well into a reservoir, and from that into the house.

"His wife, an intelligent, educated woman, keeps the house as neat as a pin, looking after the smaller children and doing the cooking. Her storeroom is filled with preserves, jelly, jam, pickles and all kinds of canned vegetables, which she put up herself. There are also many home-cured hams, side-meat and breakfast bacon in this storeroom. An underground cellar holds several hundred bushels of sweet and Irish potatoes, turnips and other vegetables.

"The wife also raises several hundred chickens, guineas, geese, turkeys and other fowls. Many cords of fire wood are stacked near the house for winter use. The farmer has about 30 Duroc pigs in his pen and a dozen or more sheep in his pasture. He has a dozen milk cows and a number of other cattle. His barns are overflowing with corn, hay and other feedstuff. He has 50 or more bales of cotton under his shed in the rear of his house, and has bank accounts in two different banks, and owes not a cent to factor, banker or any one

else. He owns all his own work stock and farm implements. He holds the respect of the people of his community, both white and black.

"Everything this farmer consumes in his home and by his helpers is produced on his place, except flour, coffee, sugar and salt. When he or any member of his family or his helpers go to town they carry something to sell and return with all or the bulk of the money. He raises 100 to 120 bales of cotton every year and markets hogs, cattle, eggs, chickens and other farm produce throughout the year.

"This negro farmer is a native of Marshall County, Miss., and by thrift, attention to his business and by exercising intelligence, is not only independent, but seems to have solved the problem of wise living and has demonstrated in a practical way that by living on the farm and off its produce, independency and even a competency can be secured. He has pursued the philosophy that the farm is a place on which to make a comfortable living and to rear a family, and by keeping down unnecessary home and operating expenses, the profits or cash returns take care of themselves in proper proportion with the commodities' prices and the bountifulness of nature. What this negro has accomplished is not in the nature of a miracle, but is the result of living up to his philosophy of living. There are hundreds of others of farmers in the tri-states section working just as good land and even better with similar climate and marketing conditions. The answer is simple, and one doesn't have to go far a field to find it."

Agriculture - 1912

Missouri

Improvement of

**DR. CROSSLAND GETS POST
ON FINANCE CORPORATION**

St. Louis, Mo.—(ANP)—Dr. J. R. A. Crossland, a Negro of St. Joseph Mo., has been sworn in as a special supervisor of contact work among colored farmers for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and working under the U. S. Department of Agriculture. He will have offices in St. Louis and has appointed four field inspectors, one of whom is Mr. Sweisch of Chicago, Ill.

Improvement of

NEGRO FARMERS SHOW IMPROVEMENT

Negro farmers in the 17 counties having local farm agents followed the extension program of living at home last year and the results have been especially beneficial during the past winter, according to reports received at State College during January. Extension work with negroes is conducted in a special division headed by C. R. Hudson, veteran farm demonstration worker, and the field work is under the direction of John W. Mitchell, negro district agent, who not only supervises the field work of the local agents but also conducts much demonstration work of his own in counties where there are large negro populations but where no farm agents are employed.

Reports received at the college during the past month indicate that more hogs than usual have been killed to provide a home supply of pork. The ill effects of the warm weather have in part been overcome by better methods of butchering as shown in demonstrations made by the local agents. Reports of from 1,200 to 2,000 pounds of meat to a farm are not unusual. One good farmer reports a cash income from his cows in December of \$126.73 above his own needs for milk and butter.

Like white farmers, many negroes have found out the value of lespedeza and increased sowings of this crop will be made on the small grain acreage during late February and March. The local agents also report much land prepared for corn during December and January. Winter gardens are said to be the best in years also. Negro farmers report onions, turnips, collards and spring cabbage in their gardens during mid-winter and some say they have had something green from the garden throughout the whole winter.

"At the close of 1931, Gates county farmers are blessed with having plenty of food in their storehouses, even if money is scarce," says Agent C. S. Mitchell. On the other hand, however, some negro farmers are discouraged because they do not have enough money to begin this year's crops. Some of them who own their own land are seeking to become tenants so that someone will take the responsibility of supplying them.

CONCORD, N. C. TRIBUNE

MAY 25 1932

STATE OF SMALL FARMS.

S. H. Hobbs, Jr., in The University News Letter gives facts and figures showing that North Carolina is a State of small farms, even counting all land held by farmers—improved and unimproved.

The average farm in the State contains only sixty-four and a half acres, of which about twenty-one acres are in harvested crops. Our farms average small compared with those of other states, while the average of cultivated acres per farm is the smallest in the United States. The farm unit in North Carolina is a small unit. Farming generally is one a small-scale basis. There are a few large farms. Also

there are many farms much below the State average in size. The average size of farms operated by white farmers is larger than the average size of farms operated by negro farmers—seventy-two acres for whites and forty-four for negroes. This covers all land, improved and unimproved.

In Moore county the average white farmer operates one hundred and twenty acres. In Wilson county the average acreage operated by white farmers is only forty. The State average is seventy-two acres.

The average negro farmer operates forty-four acres of land, ranging from eighty-three acres in Dare to eleven acres in Madison.

One-half of all the land operated by negroes is in harvested crops. Only one-third of the land operated by white farmers is in harvested crops. In other words, the white farmers hold the bulk of the idle farm lands, including the woods land.

The effective part of a farm is that part which is under cultivation. The State average amount of land in harvested crops is only 20.3 acres for the white full owners, and 17.6 acres for the negro full owners. In other words, there is not much difference between the amount of land cultivated by white and negro owners. It is fair to mention in this connection that crop land does not include improved pasture land, the bulk of which is operated by white farm owners. There are eight counties where negro owners cultivate more land per farm than white owners.

More interesting is the fact that the average

negro tenant cultivates more land than the average white tenant, twenty-two acres for negro tenants and nineteen for white tenants. There seems to be for each section of the State a rather standard-size tenant farm. The amount of land cultivated by white and negro tenants varies only slightly for the respective counties. Currituck, for instance, has the largest tenant farms, white and negro. White and negro tenants follow the same system of farming in the same county—grow the same crops, use the same machinery, apply the same amount of labor, and thus can care for only a certain number of acres of land. For some reason or other the average negro tenant cultivates three acres more than the average white tenant, although in a majority of counties the white tenants cultivate a little more land than the negro tenants. White tenants are found over the entire State. Negro tenants are more concentrated in the cotton and tobacco counties.

The largest farms in the state, counting all farm land, are concentrated mainly in the eastern part of the Piedmont or the counties just west of the fall line, and the eastern counties along the Virginia border. As a rule the small farms, counting all land, are in the central-eastern and southeastern, and the far western parts of the State.

HE DIDN'T MAKE A MOUSETRAP BUT THEY MADE A BEATEN PATH TO HIS DOOR TO LOOK AT HIS LEGUME CROP

George Simmons Is First North Carolina Farmer To Grow Lespedeza Sericea; Expects To Get \$10,000 For This Year's Crop

Special to Journal and Guide - GREENSBORO, N. C.—Five hundred white farmers made a beaten path through a downpour of rain to the farm operated here by George Simmons to see and hear which are not sold are retained by him tell his story about growing the cropper.

Lespedeza Sericea. This Negro tenant farmer has the honor of being the first man in North Carolina to grow this wonderful legume crop, according to the announcement made by W. G. Yeager, Rowan County farm agent, at the Sericea growers meeting Thursday, September 22. The first seeds were sent to the county by Dr. A. J. Pieters, chief agronomist, bureau of plant industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., to Walter Bailey of Woodleaf. The two ounces of seeds were turned over to Mr. Simmons because of the success he had had in growing Korean Lespedeza.

\$1,000 For First Crop

The first plantings were made about five years ago in three rows, the seventy-five feet in length. Enough seeds were harvested to plant one-fifth of an acre. From this one-fifth acre Mr. Simmons harvested 100 pounds of seeds which sold for \$1,000.

The grower is expecting to harvest at least 1,500 pounds from this year's crop, even though conditions have not been favorable for large yields. The crop is expected to bring more than \$10,000.

Sericea is somewhat similar to alfalfa in many ways. It will grow on the very poorest kind of soil. It can be transplanted from one field to another with ease. Within the next few years it will be grown all over the South.

Has Another Distinction

Mr. Simmons also has the distinction of being one of the few tenant farmers in the state who is able to make money for the landowner. J. W. Zachary of Coolmee, N. C., owner of the farm, told the large number of visitors that Mr. Simmons had proven himself to be an unusually good farmer in the eight years he has operated the 240 acre farm.

Mr. Zachary furnishes all of the

less of their vocation are finding it hard to keep one child in school, Mr. Simmons has managed to send two of his girls away to institutions of learning. He regrets that his boys have not expressed a love for schooling. He feels that the boys would be more interested in school activities if they could take vocational courses similar to those given the white boys in Woodleaf High School of the same county.

The farmer assured Professor S. B. Simmons, who represented the agricultural faculty of A. and T. College at the meeting and on the tour, that he would see to it the college would get enough Lespedeza Sericea seeds to establish the crop on the institution's farm in order that the boys studying to become farmers might learn the values of the crop, as well as the best production practices.

Call Race Farmer Best in Southland

George Simmons' Remarkable Success in Raising Rare Legumes Wins Praise of White Farmers

Five hundred white farmers made a beaten path through a downpour of rain recently to the farm operated by George Simmons near Greensboro, N. C., to see and hear him tell his story about growing lespedeza sericea, which resembles alfalfa. This Race tenant farmer has the honor of being the first man in North Carolina to grow this wonderful legume crop, according to an announcement made by W. G. Yeager, Rowan county agent, at the recent sericea growers meeting.

The first seeds were sent to the county by Dr. A. J. Pieters, chief agronomist, bureau of plant industry, U. S. department of agriculture, Washington, D. C., to Walter Bailey of Woodleaf, N. C.

FIRST HARVEST BRINGS
PLANTER \$1,000

The two ounces of seeds were turned over to George Simmons because of the success he had had in growing Korean lespedeza. The first plantings were made about five years ago in three rows 75 feet in length. Enough seeds were harvested to plant one-fifth of an acre. From this one-fifth acre Simmons harvested 100 pounds of seeds which sold for \$1,000.

The grower is expecting to harvest at least 1,500 pounds from this year's crop, even though conditions have not been favorable for large yields. The crop is expected to bring more

productive power of the soil, and at the same time reduces the need for commercial plant food. About 60 acres of the farm are planted in small grain, wheat, oats and rye; 60 acres in Korean lespedeza and vetch; 25 acres in corn, 15 acres in certified cotton seed, 12 in lespedeza sericea and one-half acre for the family garden.

One of the visitors asked the operator what time account amounted to annually for food and feedstuffs. His reply was, "I have not had such in 30 years." The farm inventory shows five head of work animals, 14 head of cattle, 12 hogs, 50 geese and 125 birds in the farm flock. The variety of machinery on the farm, such as tractors, mowers and thrashing machines, indicates the tenant has modern views in regard to the use of labor-saving devices on the farm.

Again Simmons proves himself different from most tenant farmers in that all of his five boys, three of whom are grown, find much joy in working on the farm with their father instead of going to the city. His oldest son, Lee, was kept quite busy helping his father answer the questions asked by the visitors about the farm and sericea. Each of the older boys has a specific responsibility on the farm; one the crops, one the live stock and the other the machinery.

HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER TAKE CARE OF ORDERS

Simmons' wife and oldest girl answer and fill orders coming to the farm for sericea and Korean lespedeza. Communications have been received from 16 states and two foreign countries. J. D. Carlston, local Race farm agent, has been a great aid to the family in matters relating to the business methods and procedure. This year when most men, regardless of their vocation, are finding it hard to keep one child in school, George Simmons has managed to send two of his girls away to institutions of learning. He regrets that his boys have not expressed a love for schooling. He feels that the boys would be more interested in school activities if they could take vocational courses similar to those given the white boys in Woodleaf high school of the same county. George Simmons assured Prof. S. B. Simmons, who represented the agricultural faculty of A. and T. college at the meeting and on the tour, that he would see to it the college would get enough lespedeza sericea seeds to establish the crop on the institution's farm in order that the boys studying to become farmers might learn of the value of the crop and also best production practices.

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Simmons has the distinction of being one of the few tenant farmers in the state who is able to make money for the land owner. J. W. Zachary of Coolmee, N. C., owner of the farm, told the large number of visitors that Simmons had proven himself to be an unusually good farmer in the eight years he has operated the 240-acre farm. Zachary furnishes all of the fertilizer and land; Simmons furnishes the other things. The cash proceeds coming from all products sold are divided equally between the tenant and the land owner. The products which are not sold are retained by the cropper.

SYSTEM OF OPERATION BRINGS GOOD RESULTS

The system on this farm is one that helps greatly in building up the